

Reagan, Kohl discuss East-West ties

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl held talks Friday in advance of next month's North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) summit in Brussels. A senior U.S. official, who asked not to be identified, told reporters the main focus of the discussions was to be the effect on NATO of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms. The heads of government of the 16 NATO members will meet in Brussels on March 2-3 to discuss the Western alliance's strategy before Reagan heads to Moscow for a summit with Gorbachev, expected to take place in May. There are substantial worries in Bonn and other West European capitals about the pace at which Washington is pursuing another arms control treaty following the one the superpowers signed at a Washington summit last December. Both Moscow and Washington say they hope the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit will be highlighted by the signature of another agreement, this time to halve superpower stocks of strategic weapons which can hit each others' countries. (See page 8).

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرباط

Bomb kills 15 in Namibia

WINDHOEK (AP) — A bomb shattered a crowded bank office Friday, killing 13 people and injuring 35, police said. It was the deadliest such attack since a guerrilla war for independence from South Africa began 22 years ago. The blast in the far-northern town of Oshakati killed 10 women, two men and a child, police said. All were black except one white woman, police said. Earlier police reports said 15 or 16 people had been killed. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the blast, which caused extensive damage to the First National Bank building. The same bank was bombed in February 1987, when five people were injured. Police said about 25 kilograms of plastic explosive was used in the blast, which occurred shortly before 1 p.m. (1100 GMT). Oshakati is in north-central Namibia, about 40 kilometres south of the Angolan border. Guerrillas of the South-West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), based in neighbouring Angola, frequently operate in the area. SWAPO's military wing is outlawed, but its political wing is legal, and a SWAPO spokesman in Windhoek denied involvement in the bombing.

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Prince Mohammad begins UAE visit

ABU DHABI (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad arrived here Thursday on a visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) following a similar visit to Qatar, where he delivered a message from King Hussein to the Qatari emir dealing with bilateral relations.

Arab engineers hail uprising

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Council of the Arab Agricultural Engineers Federation Friday hailed the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories and called for providing financial and moral support to enable the Palestinians to counter Israeli measures. At the conclusion of a four-day meeting here, the council decided to support the Agricultural Engineers Fund in the occupied territories to support agricultural projects carried out there. They also urged Arab agricultural unions and associations to honour their commitments to the fund. The council also elected nine assistant secretaries general, including Tareq Al Tal, president of the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers Association and head of the Jordanian delegation to the meeting.

Masri in Tunis to attend meeting

TUNIS (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taher Masri arrived here Friday to take part in meetings of a pan-Arab ministerial committee in charge of drawing up a unified pan-Arab plan to implement Arab resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict and follow up on the current uprising in the occupied Arab territories. The ministerial committee was formed in January following an extraordinary session of the Arab League Council. It comprises Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi, the head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Political Department, and the foreign ministers of Jordan, Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

Dutch tourist joins Palestinian uprising

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli police detained a Dutch tourist Friday for throwing stones at soldiers during a Palestinian demonstration in the occupied West Bank town of Ramallah. Emma Pour, 23, a student from Amsterdam, told newsmen she was arrested after she ran into an intersection blocked by burning tyres and threw rocks at approaching soldiers. Pour was released after half an hour, eyewitnesses said.

Assad receives Gorbachev message

DAMASCUS (AP) — President Hafez Al Assad received a letter Friday from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev concerning the latest attempts to reach a peace settlement in Afghanistan. The official Syrian Arab News Agency quoted a Syrian official source saying that "Syria welcomes the efforts of the U.N. secretary-general to solve the Afghan problem, and expresses its wishes that the Geneva negotiations to solve the Afghan issue will be a success."

Kinnock: Israel using explosive bullets

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers are firing exploding dum-dum-like bullets at Palestinians to inflict more serious wounds, British opposition leader Neil Kinnock said Friday.

One Arab victim was forced to have the lower part of his leg amputated, said Kinnock, who added that he saw an X-ray of the wound during a visit to the occupied West Bank city of Nablus.

The X-ray "showed shattering of the bone and flesh consistent with the use of an explosive bullet," Kinnock said, adding that the injury also was consistent with "the wound inflicted by a dum-dum bullet."

In addition, he said, smaller calibre bullets also are being modified to become more dangerous.

He pulled out of his pocket two .22-calibre bullets that had been filed to give them rough edges.

"The filed-down bullet with its extra effects of internal wounding is deliberately done... and that conforms to many of the definitions of dum-dum," the Labour Party leader told a news conference on the third day of his visit here.

Dum-dum bullets, outlawed by the Geneva conventions, are soft-nosed and expand on impact, inflicting large, jagged wounds. Israeli officials have denied that they use such bullets. But Palestinian doctors have said for several weeks they are treating wounds that could only be caused by dum-dum bullets.

Kinnock, who met with Israel's three top leaders during his stay here, said the officials did not deny the army was using explosive bullets.

"On the occasions on which I've put the point, I've received rationalisations and descriptions of the terrible pressures under which the Israeli defence forces are operating. But no one has attempted to deny that the bullets are used," he said.

Kinnock said he presented the bullets to the Israeli defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, during a meeting Thursday and his response "was to emphasise and draw attention to the difficulties that are facing the Israeli defence forces."

Kinnock said he also believed such bullets "are being used without any form of permission or direction or acceptance or endorsement by the Israeli army and the Israeli authorities. Of that I have no doubt."

The .22-calibre bullets have been used since November by Israeli sniper shooters under the supervision of their superiors to hit Palestinian leaders of demonstrations.

The supervision makes it unlikely the modifications are carried out without the knowledge of army officers, observers said.

Occupation forces begin large deployment in Jerusalem

Palestinians stage rally in Nablus, battle Israeli troops

NABLUS, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Hundreds of Palestinians paraded the Palestinian flag through the largest town in the occupied West Bank after Friday prayers and clashed with Israeli troops, eyewitnesses said.

The troops fired rubber bullets and tear-gas at the protesters emerging from Friday prayers in Nablus and beat up several but no deaths were reported, added the witnesses, quoted by Reuters.

A Reuters photographer saw Israeli paramilitary border police at the Balata refugee camp outside Nablus fire rubber bullets at an Arab's back from two metres range. The boy was hit but kept running.

Eyewitnesses said the level of violence in Nablus was low compared to last Friday, when two Palestinians were killed in clashes in the ancient Casbah market. The 10-week Palestinian uprising has claimed at least 57 lives in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In Jerusalem, Israeli police Friday launched one of the largest police operations in which 1,500 officers eventually will be deployed in the Holy City's Arab neighbourhoods to curb protests.

The force was assembled, in part, to prevent anti-Israeli demonstrations during next week's visit to Israel by U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz, said a police spokesman.

In the first stage of the operation, 600 officers were stationed Friday at Jerusalem's Haram Al Sharif complex, scene of frequent demonstrations during the Friday noon prayers.

It took place without incident. But the prayer leader referred to the Israeli presence, saying it desecrated the holy site. The sermon reminded listeners that one of the holy wars was started by the desecration of just one sacred place.

He called on the people to consider their fight against the Israeli authorities as a holy war and to increase their struggle.

Shultz will meet Israeli leaders next week to discuss new U.S. peace proposals. But the initiative has already run into trouble, with both Israeli right-wingers and Palestinian nationalists expressing opposition.

Several Palestinian leaders have said they would not meet Shultz without prior, public approval from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"Because of the strong anti-Shultz and anti-American feeling in the occupied territories right now, such a meeting could endanger the lives of the people participating," said one leading Palestinian.

At the Jabalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, several hundred people began demonstrating after Friday prayers, carrying Palestinian flags and throwing stones. Soldiers fired tear-gas at the Arab

marchers as army reinforcements arrived.



The remains of an Israeli bus set ablaze by Palestinian demonstrators near Hebron

Shultz 'encouraged' by reaction to American Mideast initiative

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz said he was encouraged by the willingness of Middle East leaders to explore a new U.S. peace initiative but admitted the chances of its success were slim.

On the eve of a trip to Moscow (See page 8), he also reiterated the U.S. demand that the Soviet Union must be prepared to end aid to the Kabul government as part of a settlement of the Afghan war.

Shultz, who is expected to discuss the Middle East initiative when he meets Soviet leaders Sunday and Monday, insisted on Thursday that contrary to some news reports, "people are welcoming a U.S. initiative."

"They tell us to keep coming on," he told Worldnet, the television news service of the U.S. Information Agency.

"They don't say, 'tell us where do I sign,' but nevertheless they are interested. They're not saying no."

"I am encouraged by the reaction that we've had although it's clear that the odds against anything constructive being done are always long," he said.

Responding to 10-weeks of Palestinian protests in the West Bank and Gaza, the United

In Gaza City, soldiers threw stones and bottles at demonstrators leaving the mosque after prayers. They also fired tear-gas.

The Israeli army said it imposed curfews on the Tulkarem and Danaba refugee camps on the West Bank to prevent planned anti-Israeli demonstrations. A petrol bomb thrown at an Israeli bus near Ramallah caused

no damage and demonstrations were reported in Hebron.

In Gaza, Palestinian sources told Reuters the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) representative Bernard Mills was prevented by Israeli soldiers from entering the camp. UNRWA could not be reached.

(Continued on page 4)

Goulding arrives in Amman on 2-day visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — United Nations Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding arrived Friday for two days of talks with Jordanian officials.

Goulding declined to give any comments on his arrival in Amman and said he would not be "available for any interview in the next two days," the AP reported.

The U.N. official was scheduled to hold talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin and Information Minister Hani Khasawneh, AP said.

Amman is the fourth leg of a regional tour which has been aimed partly at exploring the possibility of revitalising Arab-Israeli peace efforts.

Goulding earlier visited Lebanon, Tunisia and Syria and is due to visit Israel.

He declined to specify his next destination, the AP said.

While in Lebanon, Goulding also joined efforts to secure freedom of two officials of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and an officer of the United Nations Truce Organisations (UNTSO) in Lebanon (See page 2).

At the United Nations, a spokesman said the U.N. had pulled back its 75-member obser-

ver group in southern Lebanon to local headquarters following the abduction of the American chief of staff.

Spokesman Mario Zamorano told reporters Friday that the officers had withdrawn to the headquarters of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) with which they were serving as liaison, at Naqoura.

The decision was approved by the force commander and Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in response to the kidnapping of Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins, the group's chief. Zamorano said.

He denied reports that Higgins was on unauthorised duty near Tyre when he was seized while driving alone in his official jeep.

"Colonel Higgins was on U.N. duty and had gone to Tyre for a meeting with Amal leaders as part of his official duties," Zamorano said.

"He is the 10th American officer to hold the post of chief. As all his predecessors, he travelled freely in the area without escort."

Asked about a charge that Higgins was an operative of the Central Intelligence Agency, Zamorano quoted a statement by Goulding that the allegation was nonsensical.

Arafat: Israel emulating Nazis in occupied territories

GENEVA (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat made his debut before the U.N. Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) Friday by likening Israeli practices in the occupied territories to Nazi extermination campaigns.

Arafat also called for an international force to protect Palestinians in the occupied territories.

In a nearly hour-long speech, Arafat also said the United States encouraged Israel to "carry on with aggression and crimes" by giving the Zionist state "unlimited support."

He said Israeli methods of dealing with more than 10 weeks of the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza were "operations of collective extermination."

Arafat accused Israel of carrying out "heinous massacres and crimes" and "repeating today the same crimes committed against humanity at the hands of the fascists and the Nazis."

He said more than 120 Palestinians had been killed in the uprising.

The U.S. delegation left the crowded conference hall before Arafat began to speak.

A member of the U.S. delegation, Marshall Breger, declined to call the U.S. action a walkout, saying "we are not present."

In his address, the PLO leader said more than 3,000 Palestinians had been wounded, more than 7,000 put in "six new concentra-

tion camps" and others expelled from the occupied territories.

"Wave upon wave of our people's revolution will continue until the termination of the detested racist and fascist Israeli occupation, and the establishment of our independent free state," Arafat vowed.

Arafat departed from his prepared text to "salute the Jewish communities in Europe and the Americas and everywhere else, those communities and personalities, who have stood with our people and opposed the iron fist and bone-breaking policies" of the Israeli government.

"With every passing day the Israeli government innovates more brutal, more oppressive and more criminal ways and methods," he told the 40-member UNCHR.

"The Israeli government gives free rein to armed fanatic gangs of settlers in the occupied territories, under the protection and with the participation of the army," the PLO chairman added.

The Israeli delegation stayed away from the morning session at which Arafat spoke.

Arafat said that arms used by Israel in quelling the uprising included "internationally prohibited gases."

He said he was calling on the world to "guarantee international protection for our people" against a "terrorist and racist enemy who is indifferent to international law."

Mine scare raised in Gulf

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The marine radio in Qatar issued warnings to ships Friday after a vessel reported spotting what appeared to be a mine off the west coast of the Gulf peninsula state.

The radio in Doha advised ships to remain clear of the area, in waters between Qatar and Bahrain.

Shipping executives said an unidentified ship had reported sighting an object that was "black, with points," about 4 p.m. (1300 GMT). There was no confirmation that it was a mine.

The waters in the area are too shallow for major shipping and unlikely to have been mined, but a few of the menaces have been found in the past in waters off Bahrain and Qatar, apparently after drifting down from the northern Gulf.

However, most suspected sightings of mines have turned out to be floating debris, ranging from oil drums to dead sheep with their feet sticking out of the water.

A French warship, the Corvete Montcalm, used gunfire to destroy a floating mine north of Bahrain Thursday, according to

Kuwait's news agency, quoting French naval officials in Paris.

The United States and five European navies are scaling back their mine-sweeping forces in the Gulf after declaring that the threat posed by Iranian mines has been brought under control.

Egypt reaffirms stand

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esnat Abdul Meguid pledged support for Iraq against Iran in the Gulf war before he ended a two-day visit to Baghdad Thursday, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

The agency said he delivered a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on the outcome of Mubarak's recent visit to the United States and West European capitals.

INA said Abdul Meguid was carrying a reply from Hussein to Mubarak, but did not disclose its contents.

In another development, a senior Soviet diplomat said Thursday an arms embargo against Iran may be necessary but expressed doubts about its effectiveness in ending the Gulf war.

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Group claims abduction of U.S. Marine in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — The clandestine "Organisation of the Oppressed of the World" said Friday it was holding abducted U.S. Marine Colonel William R. Higgins and said he was a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent.

"William Higgins agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) who uses the (U.N.) observers' work as a cover for his dangerous spying mission is in the hands of our Mujahideen," the group said in a statement delivered to an international news agency in mainly Muslim west Beirut.

The Arabic handwritten statement, dated Friday, was accompanied by a photocopy of Higgins' two alleged identity cards — one in English and another in Hebrew. Both carried a picture of the officer and signature.

The group demanded the "withdrawal of all Israeli troops from Lebanese territories, the release of all Mujahideen prisoners — Lebanese and Palestinians — from the Khiam and all Zion-

ists prisons in occupied Palestine."

An Israeli-backed militia holds about 300 Arabs at a prison camp near Khiam in South Lebanon.

The group also demanded an "end to American interference in all its forms and aspects in Lebanon."

"We have captured the throat of the criminal American serpent, agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and one of the biggest spying men..." the statement said.

Lieutenant-Colonel Higgins, 43, is head of the Lebanon unit of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), which monitors Israel's borders with Arab countries.

He is one of 17 American officers among the 76 U.N.

observers on South Lebanon and was seized last Wednesday.

Three gunmen forced Higgins out of his vehicle shortly after he visited a senior Shi'ite Muslim Amal official in the South Lebanese port of Tyre.

In its statement on Friday, the Organisation of the Oppressed warned U.S. President Ronald Reagan of the consequences of "crimes committed by his agents against our people and oppressed nation."

The identity card photocopy gave a card number 9297 with date of issue June 30, 1986.

It showed the U.S. Marine's height as 175 (cms), his weight as 75 kilos (165 lbs), colour of hair, brown, colour of eyes, green.

In South Lebanon, meanwhile, Amal officials said the Shi'ite Muslim militia carried out overnight raids on houses of suspected elements in search of Higgins.

Atef Aoun, a senior Amal official, told Reuters the raids were part of the intensified hunt for the missing officer.

Prosecutor seeks death penalty for Nasser's son

CAIRO (R) — In a politically sensitive case which could dent the image of one of Egypt's national heroes, the prosecution has demanded the death sentence for the eldest son of the late President Gamal Abdul Nasser.

Khaled Abdul Nasser, now in self-exile in Yugoslavia, was charged Thursday with direct involvement in forming and financing a group called "Egypt's Revolution" which attacked Israeli and U.S. diplomats.

A transcript of statements by witnesses, released by the state prosecutor, blamed the group for wounding an Israeli attaché in June 1984 and killing two Israeli diplomats in separate machinegun attacks in 1985 and 1986.

The group also shot and wounded two U.S. diplomats last May.

The organisation, formed in February 1984, evaded Egyptian security for more than three years until a runaway member went to the authorities last August and said it followed Nasser's leftist teachings.

Nasser, who led the 1952 revolution which toppled King Farouk, devised his own brand of socialism.

His political daring and fiery oratory made him a hero of Arab nationalism and an inspiration for Third World revolutionaries. He pursued an anti-U.S., anti-Israeli line and in 1955 became the first Arab leader to conclude an arms deal with Moscow.

When he died in September 1970, his successor Anwar Sadat adopted a pro-Western policy and criticism of Nasser's line surfaced. Accounts of alleged human rights violations, abuse of power and corruption were allowed in the government-owned press.

Although Nasser has undergone some rehabilitation under President Hosni Mubarak, attempts by Nasserites to form a legal political party so far have failed.

The case against his son is likely to spark renewed controversy as the ideology of "Egypt's revolution" reflected Nasser's anti-U.S. policy.

State prosecutor Mohammad Abdul Aziz Al Guindi said Khaled Abdul Nasser, a 38-year-old engineer would be tried in absentia. No date has been set for his trial with 19 others before a Supreme State Security Court.

Charges against Nasser's son include criminal complicity, incitement, and funding and arming the group.

Guindi demanded death sentences for him and 10 others. The remaining nine, including Khaled's cousin Gamal Shawki Abdul Nasser, who is still at large, face prison terms if convicted of lesser charges.

Israelis try to close their eyes to Arab revolt

TEL AVIV (R) — Israelis are switching off their televisions, turning down their radios and closing their eyes and ears to the bad news coming out of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"When the news comes on, I just switch it off and try to ignore it, otherwise it's too disgusting," said Tel Aviv teacher Rosalie Bitman of the 10-week Palestinian uprising in Israel's occupied territories.

"The only way to deal with it is to shut it out and hope it goes away," she added.

Although the West Bank is only a few minutes drive from Tel Aviv, the daily uprising seems a world away.

"The troubles are on the far side of the country, and no matter how small the country, the far side of the country is a long way away," wrote Tel Aviv columnist Robert Rosenberg in the Jerusalem Post.

Even in Jerusalem, where serious disturbances have erupted in the Eastern Arab sector of the

city, many people prefer to close their eyes.

"I'm too busy. I have my children, I take care of my children, I'm involved with my community. Why should I worry about things I can't change," said Helen Linder, a housewife in the suburb of Ramot on the western fringes of the city.

In the suburb of Talpuz Mirrah, built on land occupied by Israel in the 1967 war, the uprising has taken place virtually on residents' doorsteps, but still many manage to distance themselves from the troubles.

"Several times, there have been riots just down the street. In the evenings, you can see flares fired by the army lighting up the sky. It's like watching a private fireworks display but often we draw the curtains," said Gershon Barak, a student at the Hebrew University.

Israeli military correspondent Ron Ben-Yishai reported that some officers involved in crushing the rebellion were closing their

eyes. He quoted one reserve officer who ordered his troops to beat up Palestinians and then looked away so as not to see his order being carried out.

Traditionally in Israel, the whole nation settled down in front of television sets at nine o'clock every evening to watch the day's news with grim concentration.

No longer. "I don't switch off, because I feel I have a duty to stay informed, but it's so distressing that I often turn the sound off or I find some excuse to go into the kitchen until the next item comes on," said Shmuel Levy, a government official in Tel Aviv.

Even people who do watch the news on Israel's state-owned television are not seeing many of the images of Israeli army brutality which have shocked television viewers abroad.

"Somebody has been very busy, since the early days of the Arab revolt, sanitising our news coverage," wrote Philip Gillon.

television critic of the Jerusalem Post.

"Either our TV reporters are being prevented by the army from doing their job properly, or they are unable or unwilling to show the fruits of (Defence Minister) Yitzhak Rabin's policy, or editors in the studio are cutting the coverage."

"Extreme censorship, official or unofficial, is in fact being practised."

Israeli broadcasting chiefs banned a satirical sketch showing a typical Israeli family glued to their TV set watching an American soap opera. Every so often, a soldier boy in the family is sent to douse a fire raging outside.

The authority described the sketch as "macabre propaganda based on false premises." Its author Tuvia Tzafir said he had intended to attack "those who send in our troops as scapegoats to do the dirty work while they themselves sit around doing nothing to try to solve the problem."

Hamadis ask gunmen not to harm captives

DUESSELDORF, West Germany (AP) — Accused kidnapper Abbas Hamadi and his brother, a suspected TWA hijacker, appealed to a group holding two West Germans in Beirut not to harm their captives, according to court testimony.

Abbas Hamadi is accused of kidnapping the two West Germans in January 1987 in a bid to force the West German government to reject a U.S. extradition request for his brother, Mohammad.

According to evidence read into court Thursday, Abbas

Hamadi wrote several letters to relatives and friends in Lebanon asking the kidnappers not to mistreat the hostages and to release them soon.

"I hope they will treat them well, because there will be trouble for me and Mohammad if they are harmed," Hamadi said in a letter dated Jan. 30, 1987.

He was arrested a few days earlier at Frankfurt airport and is now in trial.

The contents of several letters written by Mohammad Hamadi were also read into the court record Thursday.

In one letter, Mohammad Hamadi denied involvement in the 1985 hijacking of the TWA jetliner.

In a letter dated Jan. 21, 1987, Mohammad Hamadi wrote to his parents: "I found out today about the United States' allegations. I am being accused of something that I had nothing to do with."

In a letter to another brother, Abdul Hadi Hamadi, Mohammad wrote: "I only ask that the kidnappers take good care of the hostages. They're just people being held like me."

Arabs urge U.N. meeting over PLO mission

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Arab states have proposed resuming the U.N. General Assembly to consider action on the threatened U.S. closure of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission, their spokesman said Thursday.

Clovis Maksoud, U.N. representative of the Arab League, said they made their formal request Wednesday and wanted the session held by Feb. 29.

Diplomats said there was no doubt that the proposal would be heeded and that whatever action

was then sought by the Arab states and their other Third World allies was virtually certain to be approved.

The most likely course, according to Maksoud, was submission of the case to the World Court for an advisory opinion.

A U.N. spokesman said the American authorities had not notified Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar of their decision about the PLO mission, but this was expected by the end of the week.

The U.S. Congress has

directed the Justice Department to close the 13-year-old mission by March 21 under a bill President Reagan signed into law late last year.

Perez de Cuellar has said, and the State Department agreed, that closing the mission would contravene an agreement between the United States and the United Nations.

Under the agreement, U.S. authorities must facilitate the entry and functioning of PLO representatives invited to participate in U.N. activities.

Iran reports 9,000 opponents in jail

NICOSIA (R) — An Iranian official said Thursday about 9,000 members of opposition groups were in Iranian jails.

"The counter-revolutionary grouplets have altogether about 9,000 prisoners," Davoud Karimi, the top anti-drug officer of the Komiteh Revolutionary Police, said in a live programme on Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus.

Iranian officials are usually tight-lipped about the number of

prisoners. They deny holding political prisoners and maintain that the thousands detained mostly in the civil strife of the early 1980s are guilty of terrorist acts or sabotage.

The Mujahideen-E Khalq organisation, Iran's main opposition group based in Iraq, says Tehran holds and mistreats up to 140,000 political prisoners.

At least 1,500 prisoners were released or had their terms reduced to mark the revolution

anniversary earlier this month, according to reports by Iranian News Agency (IRNA).

Unrepentant opposition prisoners and major drug offenders were excluded from the pardon.

Davoudi said Iranian jails held about 40,000 drug addicts or smugglers.

TV & RADIO

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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS	SERVICE CLUBS	ARMENIAN FOLK SHOW	BRITISH WEEK	LECTURE	CULTURAL CENTRES	MUSEUMS
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FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	PRAYER TIMES	ARRIVALS	OTHER FLIGHTS	DEPARTURES	WEATHER
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USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate	891228
Amman Civil Defence	198 199
Civil Defence Irbid	271283, 273313
Civil Defence Qweissmah	770733
Civil Defence Dera'at	57306
Ambulance	192, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade	198
First aid	630341
Blood Bank	778303
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	192, 775111
Police rescue	192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters	639141
Traffic police	8963901
Electric Power Co.	636314
Municipal water complaints	771258
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	(08)533060

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre	81381/332
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn.	644216
Akshid Maternity, J. Amn.	6244212
Irbid Amman Maternity	642362
Mallat, J. Amman	632933
Palestine, Shmeisani	664174
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845/65
Al-Masdar Hospital	6672719
The Islamic, Abadi	6667157
Al-Abdi, Abadi	6641646
Italian, Al-Muhajraen	7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Aszrafeeh	7751126
Army, Madinet	89161115
Queen Alia Hospital	61240930
Amal Hospital	674135

GENERAL

Radio Television	773111/19
Jordan Jordan	774111/19
Ministry of Tourism	6423131
Hotel complaints	6664212
Price complaints	661176
Telephone Information	192
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas calls	17
Repair service	11

MARKET PRICES

Upmarket price in fils per kg.	
Apple (French)	420 / 460
Apple (green)	470 / 440
Banana	300 / 300
Banana (Mukammam)	300 / 240
Beauz	300 / 400
Bectus (nutmeg)	240 / 200
Cabbage	150 / 100
Carrot (black)	240 / 180
Carrot (yellow)	240 / 180
Cucumbers	180 / 140
Onions	900 / 80
Dates (box)	110 / 70
Eggplant (large)	110 / 70
Grapefruit	150 / 100
Lemon	130 / 100
Melons	120 / 80
Marrow	240 / 170
Onion (dry)	120 / 80
Onion (green)	210 / 180
Oranges (Abu sara)	350 / 300
Oranges (Shammout)	300 / 250
Pepper (hot)	440 / 380
Pepper (sweet)	440 / 380
Potato	140 / 100
Radish	70 / 50
Squash	140 / 100

HOME BRIEFS

PRAYERS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, attended Friday prayers at the Royal Guard Mosque.

REGENT: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday received President of the Jordan Squash Federation and the squash team, who has recently returned from Kuwait after taking part in the 4th Asian Squash Tournament. Prince Hassan congratulated the team, which won the fourth place, on its success and wished it continued progress and success.

KOREAN ENVOY: Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Thursday received South Korean Ambassador in Amman Dong-Soon Park on the occasion of the end of his term of office in Jordan. Mr. Park, who was appointed ambassador to Jordan in May 1985, will be succeeded by Tae-jin Park.

KHASAWNEH MEETS ENVOY: Minister of Information Hani Al Khasawneh Thursday separately met and reviewed bilateral cooperation in information fields with the United States Ambassador to Jordan Rosco Suddarth, East German Ambassador Wolfgang Grabowski, and Turkish Ambassador Samih Balan.

ELDERLY PEOPLE: Ministry of Social Development has sent a memo to the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar outlining the conditions of elderly people in Jordan. The memo reviewed the services offered by the ministry to elderly people in cooperation with public and private institutions and other voluntary bodies working in the field of social welfare. The memo is in reply to one which the ministry received from the U.N. concerning the situation of elderly people in Jordan.

MEDIA TIES: Scopes of bilateral cooperation in the information field between Jordan and Tunisia were the subject of discussion at a meeting held in Tunis between Jordan News Agency (Petra) Director Ali Al Saladi and Tunisian Information Minister Abdul Wahab Abdullah.

SALT CENTRE: Salt Development Corporation Chairman Ja'far Al Shami Thursday announced that the corporation has completed the Salt Cultural Centre which cost JD 2.25 million. He added that the centre, the first of its kind in the Kingdom, consists of a mosque, a public library, a folk museum, a traditional handicrafts school, a multi-purpose hall, offices, trading stores and car parks.

10 INJURED: Ten people were injured on Thursday as a result of a road accident near Muwaqqar south of Amman, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily. The report said that the victims were passengers in a bus heading for Amman from Sahab which collided with a small vehicle heading in the opposite direction. The accident caused both vehicles to overturn and fall to a nearby valley.

NURSES UNION ELECTIONS: The nurses union plans to hold elections next month to choose a new board. A union official said that nomination for board membership will begin Wednesday and will continue until March 3. The election will be held on March 18.

CHINESE BOOK DISPLAY: Arrangements have been made for mounting an exhibition displaying Chinese books, publications and posters in Arabic and English, early in April, to mark Jordan's celebrations of the National Book Week. Arrangements for the exhibition were made by the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives and the Chinese embassy in Amman.

TRAINING COURSE: A ten-day training course for accountants started here Monday at the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA). Taking part in the course are 14 heads of departments and sections and engineers from JEA.

JAPANESE COURSE: The University of Jordan is currently studying the possibility of teaching the Japanese language as an optional course, similar to French, German, Spanish and Italian, according to the Languages Institute Director Louis Muqattash.

Zawaideh returns from road transport seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh returned to Amman after taking part in a regional conference on roads held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

He said that his delegation submitted a working paper on the conference on road building and axial weights on roads in the Kingdom.

The participants in the two week meeting, the minister said, discussed questions related to the construction of roads and the effect of natural forces on the roads.

During the conference, Zawaideh said, he met with other Arab ministers attending the meeting to discuss Jordan's cooperation with their countries in issues related to road transport and communications.

Reuter adds: The international conference on road transport approved Thursday a last minute resolution by host Saudi Arabia condemning Iran for riots in Mecca last July.

Saudi Communications Minister Hussein Al Mansouri told delegates the five-day conference was concerned with safety and the riots in Mecca had threatened

the safety of pilgrims.

"If you agree, I propose including a recommendation to this effect," he said at the closing session of the regional conference of the International Road Federation.

"The delegates condemn the acts of rioting in the holy places during the Haj and denounce any party which undertakes these acts, and support Saudi Arabia's position and the steps it takes... to preserve the security and safety of the pilgrims to God's House," the resolution said.

More than 400 people, most of them Iranian, were killed in clashes between Saudi security forces and Iranian demonstrators during the pilgrimage to Mecca.

Mansouri's resolution was greeted by applause from most delegates. "I assume the acclamation means approval of the resolution," Mansouri said.

The road conference, attended by delegates from 50 countries, was opened Saturday by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz. Other recommendations adopted earlier aimed at improving the region's road networks.

Iraqi-Jordanian transport company discuss operations

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — The Iraq-Jordan Land Transport Company's (IJLTC) general assembly opens meetings in Amman Saturday to discuss general programmes for the company's operations in the current year.

The Jordanian side to the meeting will be led by Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Hamdi Tabbaa and the Iraqi side will be led by Iraqi Minister of Industry Hatem Abdul Rashid who arrived in Amman from Baghdad Thursday evening.

Rashid said that Jordanian-Iraqi relations are excellent and are progressing further in all directions.

The IJLTC earlier this month signed a contract with the French company Renault Vehicules Industriels to purchase 150 trucks worth JD 3.927 million to boost the company's transportation capabilities and promote trade between Jordan and Iraq.

The company's general assembly meeting is bound to discuss the transaction which will raise the volume of the company's fleet to 900 trucks.



REGENT OPENS LIBRARY: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, accompanied by Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, inspects a public library which he opened Thursday. The library, in Qweisneh, South East of Amman, can accommodate 4,000 books and has special corner for children's activities. The library and a public garden set up by the Greater Amman Municipality cover a total area of five dunums which are planted with fruit and other trees. Also attending the opening ceremony was Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin. Prince Hassan also planted an olive tree in the garden (Petra photo)

Dudin, E. German envoy discuss Palestinian revolt

AMMAN (Petra) — The general situation in the occupied Arab territory and the uprising of the Palestinian people in the face of continued Israeli occupation were reviewed at a meeting here Thursday by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin and East Germany's Ambassador to Jordan Wolfgang Grabowski.

The minister informed the ambassador of the condition of the Palestinian people who he said continue to face Israel's arbitrary measures.

The minister also spoke about Israel's retaliatory actions against the Arab people taking part in anti-Israeli protests which, he said, include killing, detention and confiscation of land.

Tabbaa' meets officials of brick firm

AMMAN (Petra) — Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Hamdi Tabbaa Thursday met with representatives from the Jordan Line and Silicate Brick Company and discussed with them the company's situation and its potential contribution to the national development plan.

Ajlouni seeks to promote Jordan's tourism projects

MA'IN (Petra + J.T.) — Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni said Thursday that his ministry will do all it can to promote Jordan's tourism projects and overcome difficulties and problems impeding their operations.

Ajlouni said the tourism industry should be made to help stimulate the national economy through revenues accruing from foreign visitors to the country.

He was speaking during a visit to the Zarqa-Ma'in Spa Complex with Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh during which they inspected facilities for visitors at the JD 14 million project south of Madaba, (nearly 45 kilometres south of Amman).

The spa, Ajlouni said, is bound to help attract more and more groups of visitors from Jordan and abroad and will help create jobs for Jordanians.

The minister urged the Jordan

Tourist and Mineral Water Company JTMWC which is in charge of the spa complex to re-examine their rates with a view to encouraging Jordanians to increase their visits to the spa during the holidays.

The Ministry of Tourism will take direct supervision of the project in cooperation with the Health Ministry and the company to ensure excellent services for the visitors, Ajlouni said.

The company's Director General Faysal Abul Ghanam said that the spa was the first of a series of the company's planned projects in the Kingdom. "Visitors to the spa can benefit from the therapeutical effects of the mineral springs which have temperatures ranging from 24 to 64 degrees Celsius," Faysal said that the spa has a 150 room hotel, a restaurant, a small supermarket, conventional swimming pools with large recreation area, a thermal medical section with two hot water pools and other facilities and services for the benefit of the visitors from Jordan and abroad.

The spa complex has created 300 jobs for Jordanians and has contributed towards boosting the national tourism industry, Faysal said.

He said that agreement has been reached with countries in the Gulf Arab region, West Germany, France, Belgium, and Britain to send tourist groups in package tours to the spa within the context of their visits to the country.

Majali to continue talks with Sudanese team

AMMAN — Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Hadi Majali is due to continue talks Saturday with a delegation representing the Sudanese police forces, Sudan's ambassador in Amman Radwan Mahjoub said Friday.

Mahjoub said the delegation, led by head of the Sudanese Criminal Investigation Department Brigadier Abdullah Abdoh Kaboo, will also meet with high-ranking PSD senior officers and visit police stations.

Work begins on project to upgrade Aqaba airport

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport and Communications Khaled Haj Hassan Friday said that work has started on a JD 3 million project to upgrade and modernise Aqaba airport to make it an international airport due to its economic and tourism importance.

Speaking after a meeting held Friday at the Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA), the minister said the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has started implementing the vital project which is designed to develop and modernise services so that the airport will become operational 24 hours a day.

The project, he said, entails the erection of navigational aids, warning lights, modern radar, modern meteorological system, new control tower and expansion of the terminal building.

CAA Director General Mahmoud Jamal Balqaz reviewed the authority's main activities and present projects which he said were mainly concerned with maximum safety for passengers and aircraft.

Mr. Balqaz also pointed out that the main goal of the CAA is to modernise all civil airports in Jordan and to provide them with the latest equipment and the maintenance programmes used worldwide.

The minister called for intensified efforts.

The minister earlier made a tour of the QAIA during which he inspected work at its various facilities.

Assad seeks to promote quality of community colleges

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Higher Education is currently involved in measures for promoting the work and the quality of the community colleges in the country, Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad said here Thursday.

Addressing a meeting of members of committees entrusted with working out programmes for updating the country's community colleges, Assad said that the Ministry of Higher Education has laid down certain criteria to be followed by all community colleges in the Kingdom.

At present Jordan has 57 community colleges which offer training to no less than 40,000 students in various specialisations.

According to the minister, arrangements have been made for introducing greater measures of cooperation between these colleges and the four Jordanian universities, allowing community college graduates to continue their higher studies at these universities within certain conditions.

The ministry is in the process of establishing its own community college offering four-year courses in teacher training. The graduates of this college will then be employed in schools run by the ministry, the minister noted.

In the meantime, the minister said, a process of reevaluation of the work of the community colleges in the Kingdom should take place and new measures be adopted to raise the standard of the college graduates who could be joining universities for their higher studies.

Ministry to spend JD 60m for primary health services

AMMAN — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said Thursday that his ministry spends JD 60 million annually for promoting and improving primary health services in the country.

This amount, he said, is more than 20 per cent of the ministry's total annual budget, but is quite necessary to preserve good health for the Jordanian citizens.

Hamzeh, who was speaking at a meeting grouping more than 300 doctors and specialists from different governorates, outlined Jordan's primary health programmes which, he said, are designed to meet the World Health Organisation (WHO) call for providing health services for all citizens by the year 2000.

"The ministry of health has gone a long way in achieving that goal thanks to all employees in the medical services in the country and the cooperation of all sectors," the minister said.

On claims that spending on health care services in Jordan are less than the percentage set by the WHO, Hamzeh affirmed that these claims were untrue and that Jordan's spending on health care is over 6 per cent of the aggregate income which is one of the highest rates in Third World countries.

Meteorological Department expects better weather

AMMAN — The Department of Meteorology expects an improvement in the weather conditions for Saturday following two days of heavy rains in most regions of Jordan.

The rains flooded vast areas of the Nabatean city of Petra, cutting off nearly 150 foreign tourists visiting the ancient city, which prompted rescue teams from Civil Defence Departments in Wadi Musa and Maan to rush to the rescue.

50 per cent of Jordanians marry within the extended family

Experts seek to prevent defects caused by inbreeding

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Close to 50 per cent of Jordanians marry within the extended family, causing alarm among doctors here as certain abnormalities appearing in the offspring have been linked to intermarriage.

The abnormalities have forced researchers to reconsider the acceptability of inbreeding, which has, over the centuries, become a "social tradition" in the Arab World.

Experts interviewed by the Jordan Times agreed that intermarriage is a social, rather than a religious, tradition. According to the Muslim faith, intermarriage is not encouraged. In one of the Prophet Muhammad's Hadiths, the Prophet advised against the marriage of relatives.

University of Jordan Sharia Department Dean Ibrahim Zaid Keilani explained that since Islam is a religion of science, "if science proves that intermarriage leads to various diseases and mental retardation, then Muslims should refrain from intermarriage to avoid harm to the family. It is God's Sharia to build strong individuals in body, mind, soul and spirit."

University of Jordan Professor of Community Medicine Dr. Sami Khoury believes that intermarriage in the Arab society was a pre-Islamic tradition. "The cousin had priority in order to keep the holdings and the money of the family within the family," said Khoury. Such tradition is supported with an often quoted Arab saying, usually in jest nowadays: A male cousin has the right to take his girl cousin off the horse's back."

Khoury cited the example of Al Khansa'a, a famous woman poet during the Jahiliya (pre-Islam) who said something to the effect of "imagine not marrying my cousin and going to a stranger."

Both Khoury and University of Jordan Professor of Sociology Dr. Sari Nasir pointed to economic factors as the main reason for the

continuation of intermarriage throughout the centuries. "Keeping the property within the family shows the important social, economic and political role the extended family played in the lives of the family members," said Nasir.

He added that the extended family unit was crucial in solving the problems of the couples, lessening chances of divorce, bringing up the children and taking care of the children if something happened to their parents.

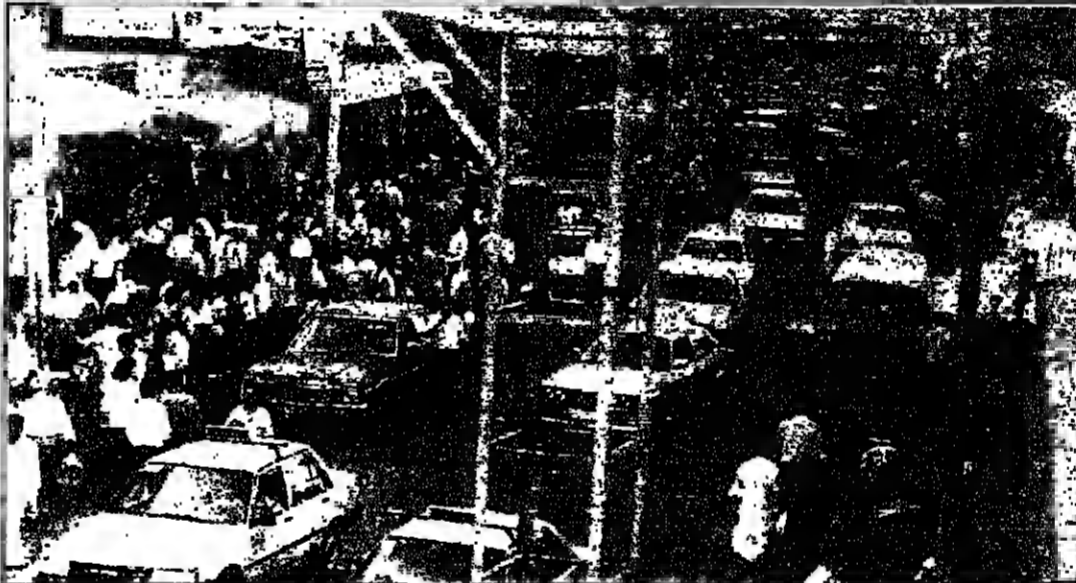
However, regardless of what Nasir labelled as advantages from the view of the family, the high risk of genetic diseases overshadows any advantages. Minimal awareness has played a large role in the continuation of extensive inbreeding until today.

Statistics from the University of Jordan's Medical Department indicate that close to half the population marry within the extended family. According to Khoury, a cross-section study of 1995 households has revealed that 33 per cent of all marriages in Jordan are first degree, seven per cent second degree, and an additional ten per cent are within the extended family, bringing the total number close to 49.75 per cent, one of the highest percentages worldwide.

First degree intermarriage is defined as marriage between first cousins, and second degree removed as marriage between the children of these cousins.

Although high, Nasir notes that these figures are considerably lower than previous rates of intermarriage which he said may have reached 95 per cent of the population. He attributed the drop to the extended family breaking down and the higher number of women receiving an education and becoming economically independent.

"An education and economic independence means that a woman does not have to depend on her father, and consequently to listen to what he dictates. Therefore, if her marriage is arranged, as most marriages be-



Jordan has one of the highest percentages of intermarriage in the world

two cousins usually are, she can have a say," he said.

Nevertheless, the figures have caused some alarm among doctors because of the resulting birth defects. "Few people are aware of the dangers of inbreeding," Khoury said.

If there is a defect in the genes of a family, other members of the family are bound to be carriers of the defect. If cousins marry chances of their child having the mutation is very high.

University of Jordan Professor of Gynecology, Dr. Majid Bata, explained there are two types of inherited diseases. If the genetic defect is dominant and at least one parent has the dominant gene, then chances of inheriting the mutation is almost 100 per cent, said Bata.

Dominant mutations include partial colour blindness (yellow and blue) and night blindness. In some cases the dominant gene can only be passed by the mother to her offspring as in the case of hemophilia, and in others the father is the carrier of the dominant gene such as anemia and baldness, said Khoury.

However, if the genetic defect is recessive, both parents must be carriers of the recessive gene for the offspring to carry the gene and traits of sickle cell anemia,

total colour blindness, cystic fibrosis (involves generalised disorder of the exocrine glands, and is marked by faulty digestion due to a deficiency of pancreatic enzymes, by difficulty in breathing or excessive loss of salt in the sweat), or an albino condition.

If the recessive carrier of a mutated gene marries outside the family no one who is not a carrier of the same mutated gene, the possibility of transmission is nil, and the trait remains hidden, said Bata.

Within certain families, which have greater tendencies to develop some diseases such as breast cancer, inbreeding has been pointed to as an important factor behind the increase of familial tendency incidence, he noted, adding, "how these diseases are transmitted is still not clear."

In second degree marriages the risks are lessened depending on the nature of the disease and on the statistical risk factor.

"There is a need for counselling and to study the disease and risk factors statistically," Khoury said. At the University of Jordan, the Medical Department is building a laboratory which will be able to provide accurate diagnosis of genetic defects.

The diagnoses are presently being done in an elementary way at the biochemical laboratory at University of Jordan's faculty of medicine.

Once the diagnosis is made, the Department of Community Medicine will try to do three things: Epidemiological investigation, genetic counselling, and registration of people with genetic diseases.

The investigation will locate siblings and parents of the affected individual in order to check the family tree for carriers.

"It also means testing for other defects," Khoury said.

If members of the family are found to carry a disease, the university will provide genetic counselling about marriage and treatment for the disease, if available. Then based on the results of the tests, the family members are registered. "Our emphasis is on prevention of these defects. It takes one defect in a family to make people aware of the dangers of inbreeding," said Khoury, adding the spread of awareness to take time and several health campaigns before the present percentage is considerably lowered.

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGNERS'
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سكربت من ابي حلو

Jordan Times

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Shamir's rudeness

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted as saying things that have no doubt exceeded all limits of rudeness and falsehoods. He said that the Israelis and the Arabs confide in the United States which is now trusted to try its hand in resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict. Shamir made the statement shortly before U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is to make a tour of the Middle East region, in yet another attempt to present America's views about a solution. Needless to say, that Shamir's allegations are all lies, since the Arab countries' readiness to receive Shultz and talk to him does not mean that they trust this man above all other envoys that visited the Middle East region. The Arabs have received Soviet envoy Vladimir Polyakov and talked to him on the issue, and had contacts with many others from the East and West. Shamir is clearly trying to distort the Arab Nation's stand with regard to the American initiative by his unfounded statement. The Arabs cannot accept the U.S. to have preference over other countries in trying to resolve the Middle East crisis and they can only consider the U.S. on equal footing with the other members of the U.N. Security Council.

Al Dustour: Jordan intensifies drive for peace

JORDAN'S strenuous efforts of the past years have all been concentrated on means of regaining Arab rights and lands in the occupied territory. Over the past weeks, Jordan through its envoys travelling worldwide, has been seeking means for ending the Israeli occupation of Arab territory and helping the Palestinian people to maintain their rights and their legitimate existence on their own soil. In its serious drive to end Israeli occupation of Arab lands, Jordan has been acting from its firm faith in the just Arab cause and from its commitment to the Arab Nation, basing its endeavours on the consensus and agreement achieved by Arab leaders at their Amman summit in November. Jordan's diplomacy has, as a result, succeeded in breaking the deadlock in the quest for peace in our region and His Majesty King Hussein's meetings with European leaders and his constant contacts with Arab countries have all helped in paving the ground for more world support for the Arab Nation's rights and the struggle to end the Israeli occupation. In addition, the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied territory has also succeeded in shaking the ground under Israel's feet, reminding the Israelis that they cannot keep land and peace, and that they should sooner or later recognise the rights of the Palestinian people whom they had oppressed and inhumanly treated for so long.

Sawat Al Shaab: World discovers Palestinians

THERE is no doubt that the Palestinian people's uprising against Israel's occupation and oppression has opened the eyes of the world on many facts in our area. The world has now come to realise the true sufferings and the depth of the tragedy of the Palestinian people living under Israeli rule. The world has also come to realise the need for an international conference which can put an end to such tragedy. Backing the Palestinian people's endeavours, Jordan under the leadership of his Majesty King Hussein, has left no stone unturned in the search for means of ending the sufferings of the Palestinian people. The whole world now realises the meaning and the consequences of the iron-fist policy practised by the Israeli forces on the Arab people under their rule, with hacking and support from the United States which has been denying the Arab people their rights in their homeland. Therefore, we believe that the coming U.S. initiative spearheaded by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz should be regarded as part of the general contest of Israel-U.S. alliance, and one that is totally aimed at serving Israel's aims and objectives.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Visitors flood Mideast

THE Arab region is currently witnessing a flurry of diplomatic activity, most prominent of which are the tours of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai in Arab capitals. Other activities are those of the Soviet Union and the United States who have been sending envoys to the Arab region to review Middle Eastern issues. Vladimir Polyakov has been holding talks in Arab capitals; U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is about to arrive here on a similar mission for his country; and U.N. envoy Marrac Goulding had already visited the area and toured the occupied Arab regions. Needless to say that these moves came in the wake of King Hussein's success in rallying support for Arab just causes and the current uprising in the occupied Arab territory. These developments indicate that the world community is interested in convening an international conference for the sake of ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Gulf war in implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai's visits to Arab capitals is in line with the Jordanian firm policy and its total support for all moves that enjoy backing from Arab countries and lead towards a permanent peace. Let us hope that Shultz will seize the opportunity of his visit to offer constructive ideas in harmony with Arab rights and leading to genuine peace.

Al Dustour: Another important step

KING Hussein's message to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein carried by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Wednesday was another important diplomatic step in Jordan's ongoing efforts. Rifai's visit to Baghdad following similar ones to Damascus and Cairo comes amidst new political developments and in the light of the ongoing uprising in the occupied Arab lands. Such visits underline the importance of coordinating Arab countries' views and stands with regard to the Palestine question and other issues of concern to the Arab Nation at present. Jordan which realises the seriousness of the situation in the occupied Arab territory, has been exerting strenuous efforts at all levels and has been pursuing all courses that can lead to gaining international support for moves to end the sufferings of the Palestinian people. The Arabs ought to benefit from worldwide condemnation of Israel's atrocities in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and concert their efforts and their stands for the sake of tightening the noose around Israel, exposing its inhuman practices to the whole world. At the same time efforts of Arab countries should be pooled together in support of the just struggle of the Palestinian people for liberation.

Shultz plan: Self-rule, direct negotiations

Following are extended excerpts from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's remarks to the Council of Foreign Relations, delivered in Washington last week.

I THINK it's well to remind ourselves, before we start delving into the undoubted great problems, that there has been a great deal of progress made over the years in this field (of the peace process).

There is a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel that has lasted. It has been possible recently to work out the method for dealing with the Taba dispute. Egypt has stuck with the peace treaty despite a lot of pressures and being, in effect, boycotted by its fellow Arab neighbours. The Arab countries have now come back to Egypt so to speak, even as Egypt has held its position.

There have been a great deal of discussions held between people in the government of Israel and people in, at least, some of the other countries. An Arab bank has been established on the West Bank. It seems to be working, or has been working. I haven't looked in the last month or so, but it did get started pretty well. It is impossible for such things to get started unless there are some pretty detailed and careful discussions between the banking authorities in Israel and banking authorities in some other countries, and so on.

What these achievements show is that under the right circumstances negotiations can work.

I suppose if you look around at the rather barren landscape otherwise, you can't help but come to the conclusion that nothing much else works because the violence advocated by the PLO hasn't gotten them very much. In fact, it hasn't gotten them anything. I might say the Israeli invasion of Lebanon didn't exactly turn out that well.

So somehow those kinds of measures, direct measures that have a military or violent component — and I don't mean to compare the two or juxtapose the two in any particular way — have not worked but negotiations have worked.

Let me briefly review, in a very simple way so lots will be left out, a kind of a flow of events over the last three, four, five years. We had a period in which the discussions that we in the United States conducted with others tended to emphasise one element or another of the substance of what he done with problems. The president's September 1 initiative was an outstanding example of a set of substantive suggestions about what might take place.

Certainly, the so-called autonomy talks under the Camp David agreement were a set of substantive talks about things that might be done on the West Bank and Gaza. So there was a period of work on the substance and, as these discussions were being held, it seemed more and more that there came to be a drive to say, well, maybe there should be a negotiation but before the negotiation can start, I have to have even more substance. I have to know where the negotiations are going to end before I am willing to start.

From the U.S. side, we started to emphasise that, of course, you can't know where it's going to end. People have different positions. But if you can get started in a reasonable way, that's what a negotiation is about. In the end, a right answer is the answer that people, who are knowledgeable and responsible and have to report to their constituencies, agree is a reasonable answer.

So we have to talk about getting into a negotiation. We addressed that, and others did. A lot of progress was made. Nevertheless, we didn't quite get there and came to be sort of two tracks of discussion. One was, as we said many times and many in Israel said, in the end you have to get into a direct negotiation between Israel and, at least with respect to the West Bank and Gaza, Jordan with a Palestinian part of their delegation. That was an effort to identify a process.

Jordan was very uncomfortable with that idea and felt, for various reasons — probably, pretty good reasons — that it couldn't enter such negotiations except in connection with some international umbrella or international conference, or some way of legitimising the direct negotiations, no doubt referring back in some manner to U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 and therefore to the United Nations.

So the idea of an international conference got talked about more and more. Once again, a discussion about a process. Many felt, I felt, that as we discussed these processes with key parties, we

found ourselves getting nowhere and, in an odd way, the reason seemed to be rather similar no matter who you talked to.

On the one hand, when we talked about direct negotiations, the Jordanians might say — did say — if we entered direct negotiations, where does that take us? We hear the Israelis say, there is no territory to be traded for peace. All of that territory will stay in Israel's hands. And if that's the case, then what's the point of a negotiation? The act of entering negotiation is a big thing. If I'm going to do it and bite all that off, then I need to feel confident that I've got some place to go. So I'm uneasy about direct negotiations.

'There is almost universal joy that the U.S. may get itself heavily engaged.'

By the same token, at least many in Israel, when an international conference is broached, take the view — not too difficult to understand — will look who would be at the international conference. Who are the friends of Israel there? Who are the people at the international conference who are going to understand all of the difficulties and subtleties and security needs, and so forth, that we have; and what tends to happen, no matter what you say, at the beginning, in the dynamics of a group like that. And isn't it likely that it will sort of seek some extreme and we'll wind up saying that the answer is that Israel must go back to the 1967 borders.

But both (the Jordanians and the Israelis) looked at these processes and they said, we don't want to start because of the substance that seems to be inferred by the process. We see the substance is not going to work, as far as we're concerned, and therefore we're stepping into a hole, so we don't want to do that.

We thought about that pretty hard. We had concluded some time ago that we had to re-orient this picture if we were going to succeed. On the other hand in order to get any place, people's attitude had to be such that they really would be ready to make some changes, shift their gears and perhaps look to some positions that they hadn't previously found very agreeable.

The violence on the West Bank and Gaza, which has erupted in the last couple of months, does seem to have had quite an impact on people's thinking, not in response to the violence as such. I think it's very important not to get ourselves in the position of saying, because of the violence, we do such-and-such. But, rather, reflecting on it and perhaps scratching some heads and wondering why, at least, I have found a little more receptivity to thinking about these problems in a fresh way.

So what we have said, here is a peace process, here is this area, and over a long period of time a great many very smart, very well informed people have thought about it hard, and it's not likely that there is some flash of a new idea that somebody is going to come up. But maybe we can take the ideas that have been lying around and worked on, and particularly somewhere at least a little progress has been made, rearrange them and find ourselves a new blend of potential substance and potential procedure. So we have been trying to do that.

'Odd lame-duck administration. We're working harder than ever.'

I think that one ingredient is clear and that is, if anything important is going to happen, the United States has to really put its back into it and be ready to work hard, and continuously, with the parties on whatever it is that we put into the field.

So, in broad terms, here is the notion of a somewhat new blend of ideas to work with. I will try to use words that are slightly different just in order not to turn people off immediately by saying, oh, well, you just mean this or you just mean that.

First of all, it seems clear that it's important to do some things on the West Bank and Gaza in a relatively short time span that can have the potential of making a genuine and sharp change in the conditions of life there — and by that I mean in the political conditions of life, in the extent to

which people have more control and more sense of control, the reality and the sense of the reality over, basically, how they live their daily lives, things that have to do with community services, that have to do with land, water, and the police and so on. So I think there are a number of things that can be done there, and it is our belief that drawing on things that have been worked on in days past, and adding to them, adapting them, that there are important possibilities that could be worked out in a relatively short space of time, like, say a six-month period from when the gong rang, so to speak, that would, when implemented, by a transition authority that would be identified through some kind of electoral process, make the control of life on the West Bank and Gaza immediately quite different.

Second, that kind of a change, while perhaps welcome, should be welcome, certainly isn't sufficient. And no one would be satisfied until we had come to grips with the final status type issues. And so, rather than have addressing those issues postponed and often at some distant point, we believe it is important, essential, to set a certain date on which it would be agreed that these negotiations would start; and that that certain date should not lag far beyond the end of this six-month period; and precede the actual implementation of what was agreed to during the six months so that the actual final status negotiations would get started rapidly.

'That we don't have to worry about the next election is an advantage.'

So here you have, basically, three substantive things: One dealing with things that can be done quickly; another dealing with the issues of final status; and a third dealing with the interrelationship between them, a kind of interlocking between these two areas of substance. As we talk with the parties of course, they want to know more about the details of what you have in mind of these things that can be done immediately and what you have in mind about final status, and in particular, where there is in this picture the formula of territory for peace, or whether it will go on the basis of Resolution 242.

And the answer to that has to be yes, or you don't start. Now, we have felt that if it turns out that, at least in a broad way but with enough content so that people have a genuine feel, an honest feel for what the content might actually be, if it turns out that in a broad way we can get the government of Israel on board, get the government of Jordan on board, Egypt, with others informed, whether — how supportive they would be of it will vary, I'm sure — but if it can be done, and people then have some better feeling for what the substance would be that would come out of all this, then that would shed a little different light on the procedural issues. Perhaps an international conference under those circumstances wouldn't seem so much of a chance.

And by the same token, if you say that the international conference takes place on the basis that it can't dictate to the parties, can't overturn anything they agree on, and essentially, would know beforehand that out of it will come direct negotiations, perhaps the direct negotiations too won't seem like such a big roll of the dice. So by working the substance in a little different way and trying to put it into people's minds in a secure manner, we have felt then perhaps we can go back to some of these procedural questions, use the good work that has been done, and get the peace process genuinely invigorated again. It won't be just a dry hole.

Now, that leaves an awful lot of room for hard negotiation we know, and many have told me that if we ever do get this started, we'll be sorry because it'll be so difficult; but at any rate, that is what we would like to do, and we are, I think, fairly close to have touched the various bases and getting ourselves in a position of wanting to decide whether it is worthwhile and potentially productive to proceed, and proceed on a strong, energetic basis to try to get the peace process really rolling and see if we can't come to grips with these issues in a productive and satisfactory way. So, that is, fundamentally, our story.

But our thought here is that because there is concern in the region, people are a little more

open than they were. I believe that many in Israel are puzzled what to do. Here are these things happening. They haven't happened quite that way before. And I am convinced that it is also true that in the Arab World, particularly countries around Israel, they are very uneasy about these developments, because as many have said to me, this isn't just an Israeli problem, although they are very critical of Israel, how Israel is handling it. But nevertheless, they are very clear that these developments are things that can affect their country just as much, and so there is a desire to do something with the problem; and I think that's what gives us our opportunity to try a little new blend of substance and procedure, and see if we can get things started that seem to be stuck beforehand.

The actions that have taken place on the West Bank and Gaza, in a sense have identified Palestinians who are there; and just who they are, and whether there is any one, two, or three people that you can think of as leaders is a question mark. But if nothing else, these developments say that the Palestinians residing on the West Bank and Gaza are not too happy with the leadership they have been getting from wherever, and they're kind of taking things somewhat into their own hands.

Now, that is a problem in asking yourself, "How do you find them?" but it's a plus in that you have people who are in the geographic area, and part of the people in that area that, at least in the first instance, you want to represent, so there are pluses and minuses here, and of course, if you do get started and you can make the sharp change I was referring to in the conditions, political conditions on the West Bank and Gaza through establishing authority through an electoral process, that process gives you, but its own terms, an outcome in terms of individual people.

'It's assumed that we have to work with both arms of the Israeli gov't.'

On the whole, what we find is that there is almost universal joy, in a way, at the possibility that the U.S. may get itself heavily engaged and really go to work on this hard. That's welcomed. They want us there. And there is a good responsiveness to the ideas that we've presented, and people want to talk about them. They seem real; they seem to be grappling with the problems as they are, not concocted. So we just have to see.

Now, as far as the Soviets are concerned, their role in all of this, as we have looked back and seen what they've been doing, has not been a helpful role at all. And when Jordan, for example worked out an arrangement with the PLO whenever that was, a couple of years ago, the Soviets did everything they could to sabotage it. So their instincts in the past have not been, as we would see it, constructive.

Whether they are prepared to work in this environment and take part in the kind of conference I described, I don't know. But they are very anxious to discuss these issues, and it may be that they will have something to contribute that's positive. I hope so. It remains to be seen.

Obviously, everybody knows the president and I will not be in office come 1989, so our ability to say what the United States will be doing in 1989 has that constraint on it.

But it isn't a complete constraint, because if what takes place, takes place with a lot of support from the people in this country who are especially concerned with this issue and tends to have bipartisan support in the Congress and is moving in a reasonable direction, then those ideas will be picked up and reinforced, and part of our job, of course, is to try to leave things as good a shape for our successors as we possibly can.

I also think there are some things, particularly in the interim arrangements area, that can be accomplished with a lot of work and basically gotten more or less in place. So those things can be done before an election.

As far as President Reagan is concerned, there are certain advantages in not being caught up in the campaign. He's an odd kind of lame duck. It's an odd lame duck administration. We're working harder than ever, and there are more things to do. There's more fluidity all over the world right now than there has

been in quite a long while, so I think we will be active in this problem and the fact that we don't have to worry about the next election, so to speak, is in some respect an advantage. At least it won't be a distraction to us.

In Israel, obviously, the electoral politics are very much on everyone's mind. We have to approach it sensitive to that, but to a certain extent oblivious to it. That is, we have to say to ourselves that if there is an opportunity to move toward peace, here we should do it, and that is a good thing. And somehow the Israeli electoral politics of whatever happens will sort itself out and if it does turn out to be a good thing, we would hope everybody will get on the side of it, and it won't be a divisive issue in Israel.

I believe that in Israel, in any country, if you come to negotiate about the sorts of issues that we have involved here, which goes so deep to the values, to the security, to the historic religious base of the country, as these issues do, you really can't expect to do important things unless there is broad support in that country. 51-49 is not the basis on which you can do things that are as difficult as these.

'If there will not be any give on territory, any movement is unlikely.'

So we have made it an assumption that we have to work with both arms of the national unity government, and both have to be on board if we're going to get anywhere. So that's the way we're going about it.

Now, things having to do with the peace process are the most difficult, and in a way the terms of the national unity government itself sort of specified that this was a subject on which cooperation between the parties was unlikely, but I don't rule it out for that reason.

I don't claim to be an expert on Israeli politics, and, as I have probed into it, I find there are very few people who are real experts on Israeli politics. It's a pretty complicated business. But most people who claim to be and look ahead to the election that will take place seem to think that

things may change a little, but they're not going to change a lot, which means that as you look to the future, you're going to have these two parties, and, if you're going to do something that is as penetrating as we're talking about, I think you're going to have both parties involved and on board.

Finally, let me say — refer you back to what I described as our new blend. Things that can be done immediately, final status, and a connection between them that is set out, all agreed and in broad terms in advance before we go on to the procedural issues. And among those needs to be the facing up to the fact that when we get the final status, 242 and the formula of territory for peace has to be there. And, if it's impossible to face that fact, then it's impossible to get going. So we have to confront that and work at that going in.

I think there has to be the open invitation, so to speak, for an Israeli-Syrian negotiation, an Israeli-Lebanon negotiation, as well as an Israeli-Jordanian-Palestinian negotiation. That has to be there if people want to pick it up, and maybe they will, although it seems doubtful.

Our intention, as what we've done already shows, is to make a point of being sure that all of the states surrounding Israel do know what's going on, that we go talk to them, we hear what they have to say, we inform them, and so for that reason we made a point of going early on to Syria, and we have kept the Russians posted in a way. And I will be in Moscow in another, whatever, week and a half or two weeks, so I'm sure we'll have discussion of the Middle East and get some sense of what the Soviets may or may not be willing to do upon such a situation.

I think the problem to be addressed now as we start, and if we are confronted with the necessity to assume that there will not be any give on territory, then I think there is unlikely to be any movement. So this is something that we're talking about and making plain our opinion, and those in charge in the various countries involved have to look at this and let us know what their view is. And people are struggling with this. It's tough. Real tough — The Jerusalem Post.

Palestinians stage rally in Nablus

(Continued from page 1)

The sources said there were demonstrations in several Gaza Strip refugee camps. They said Israeli troops burst into the Ahli hospital in the centre of Gaza to arrest a boy.

Earlier Friday, a bomb exploded outside a synagogue near Tel Aviv.

Army radio said the bomb went off outside a synagogue in the Kfar Abraham district of Petah Tikvah shortly after morning prayers but nobody was injured. Petah Tikvah police confirmed a bomb exploded but could give no details.

In Tunis, a senior PLO official said Friday that the Israeli defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, ordered the torture of Palestinian prisoners to extract the names of leaders of the uprising.

Bassam Abu Sharif, an adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, was commenting on an Israeli decision Thursday to prosecute a secret service agent in connection with the death of a Palestinian prisoner (See page 2).

"This is a clear attempt to cover up the real criminal, who is Yitzhak Rabin," Abu Sharif told Reuters.

"He is the one who orders to step up torture during interrogation of Palestinian prisoners to try to extract the identity of the PLO leadership and cadres in the West Bank and Gaza," he added.

"This was part of Israel's 'iron-fist' policy, and we accuse Rabin himself, who signed the order," he said.

Israel has announced plans to begin enforcing tax laws in what it calls a non-violent show of force in the occupied territories.

Starting this week, Arab residents will have to show they paid their taxes before leaving for Arab states or receiving licences to import and export goods, said a spokesman for the West Bank military administration.

The new Israeli social policy, to take effect this week, requires Palestinians to prove they paid their taxes before crossing borders or flying out through Israel's Ben-Gurion airport, Israel's Tim news agency reported.

LETTERS

Greetings to Jordan

To the Editor:

WE ARE just nearing the end of 2½ years in Jordan and have been, for the last few weeks trying to think how best to express our sentiments and appreciation for a very happy and rewarding period of our lives. Since we have always enjoyed reading the Jordan Times we therefore felt it would be appropriate for us to write to you in the event that you may publish this totally unsolicited letter.

Having lived in the Middle East for almost 14 years we consider that we can speak with some knowledge and with absolute certainty can say we have truly enjoyed our stay in Jordan.

Almost without exception we have found the people at all levels, courteous, helpful, warm, considerate and above all compassionate. Right at the end of our stay our son was born here and the qualities described above were certainly evident in the Khalidi Hospital.

All that remains is for us to wish the people of Jordan the happiness, peace and prosperity that they deserve; and this we are sure will be forthcoming under the wise rule of His Majesty King Hussein and his government who have done and continue to do so much in maintaining the universal and worldwide respect that the Kingdom of Jordan enjoys.

Stuart Whyman
P.O. Box: 40
Amman

Dialogue, dialogue

Sana Atiyeh interviews Michael Lame (right) of the Foundation for Mideast Communications

AMMAN — There is concern among Arabs and Jews in the occupied territories about the eventuality of the Palestinian uprising, and some of them believe that the uprising should be coupled with a political programme proposed by the Palestinians inside, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or Jordan, according to the Foundation for Mideast Communication Executive Director Michael Lame.

Lame said it was a "dangerously misleading notion that the continuation and expansion of this uprising alone could possibly liberate the occupied territories." He added: "I don't think the Israeli public and military are willing to suffer a military defeat, and they have by no means brought to bear the full weight of their military power. It would be very bloody if they did."

According to Lame, the uprising is one of the most important events that has happened in the occupied territories in the last 20 years, but he added, "the activism must be coupled with political dialogue if the uprising is to be effective and if the conflict is to be resolved."

In an interview with the Jordan Times while he was in Amman after his visit to the occupied territories, Lame said that people there believed that Palestinians should have some sort of representation to speak on behalf of their interests. He said that in Jerusalem, he found that the Israelis and the Palestinians disagreed politically, but that they were united in their commitment to a resolution on the conflict, and in their belief that communication is the key to this

resolution.

He added that, "there has been a fundamental change in Israeli public opinion, which is towards recognition that the Palestinians are determined to have some form of political self-expression, and that determination cannot be ignored much longer."

Lame, who was heading a two-day intensive workshop between Palestinians and Israelis in Jerusalem, said that he heard statements from Israelis such as, "the occupation cannot go on," and that there were ads in newspapers, marches and demonstrations against the occupation by the Israelis. "That's new," he commented.

He said that people there are worried that the uprising would turn into a "bloodbath" on both sides. Lame said that if this happens, "it could shift international opinion away from being pro-Palestinian, which it has been for the past couple of months."

Lame believes that "stone-throwing is not non-violent because... it could cause serious harm." He added, however, that he was not trying to equate stone-throwing with shooting since there have been over 50 Palestinians killed and not a single Israeli killed during the uprising.

What did Lame, an American attorney, see when he encountered the Palestinian uprising during his visit in the occupied territories? "I saw frightened young soldiers with guns."

During the interview, Lame retracted a statement he made about "people treating the people like animals" in the occupied territories. "It was too harsh," he said, "I don't think that the



"There has been a fundamental change in Israeli public opinion towards recognition that the Palestinians are determined to have some form of political self-expression, and that that determination cannot be ignored much longer."

Israelis are treating Palestinians like animals."

According to Lame, the workshop last week was the seventh one held in Jerusalem in the last year.

On the first day of the workshop, participants spoke openly with one another about the causes of the conflict, explained Lame, whose office is based in Washington D.C. "We discussed who are the parties involved in the conflict. The conflict with Arab nations used to dominate Israeli thinking and when Israelis and Palestinians come together and discuss who are the parties to the conflict, it calls the stereotypes into question. Is it little David Israel versus big Goliath the Arab World or is it Little David the Palestinian versus big Goliath the state of Israel," he explained.

Lame went on to say that Palestinian and Israeli participants also talked about "who are the Jews, Zionists, and the Palestinians? There were major differences between Israelis and Palestinians about who are the Jews. Most Arabs tend to define Jews as a religious group; most Jews tend to define Jews as a people, which has big political implications of definition about the legitimacy of the state of Israel."

"Jews do not just see themselves as a religious group, but rather as a people with a history,

culture and with a tie to the land of Israel, and I find that interaction is often very fruitful; not of convincing anybody of anything but in having Arabs understand how Jews view themselves. Similarly, the conversation about who are the Palestinians is an eyeopener for many Israelis, who listen to how Palestinians define what it is to be Palestinian," Lame continued.

The first day is the past and present, and in the second day the people look at the future by proposing their own solutions, explained Lame. "We ask people to step into other people's shoes and present solutions other than the ones they believe in. We listen to each other's predictions of the future, most of which are gloomy. We look at alternative futures for the region, talk about what action could bring peace closer. The workshop is designed to be a beginning, not an end," he noted, adding that the workshop is not designed to reach a conclusion.

The Washington-based Foundation of Mideast Communication was established in 1983 as a non-profit, non-governmental corporation to generate discussions among Muslims, Jews and Christians on working together towards a possible peace in the Middle East. The foundation is funded by workshop tuition and individual contributions.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Feb. 20, 1988

Josef Summer
Adam Storke

8:30 Married with Children
Peggy Sue Got Work

When Al refuses to buy Peggy a VCR, Mercy convinces her to get a job and buy one for herself.

9:00 Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film
Hell Commandos

During World War II an American commando brigadier was charged with the affair of landing behind the German lines to arrest a scientist who cooperated with the Nazis in manufacturing bacterial weapons.

Sun. — Feb. 21, 1988

8:30 Farrington
That Old Black Magic

Harnet's surprise visitor from London causes the Major to dabble in some dubious love potions supplied by Sanchez.

9:10 Doc. — The making of a Continent
Part 2

The Rich Light Desert

A vast desert in the USA was utilised by man by planting it and extracting subterranean water from it. Lands were irrigated and many animals and birds flocked to it. Other parts of the USA are shown with different views. Waterfalls, rivers, lakes, and forests.

10:20 Secret Army

Mon. — Feb. 22, 1988

8:30 Are You Being Served

9:10 Vanity Fair

10:20 Feature Film
Special Friendship

Starring:
Tracy Pollan
Akosha Basia
LeVar Burton
Cynthia Harris

Based on a true story. As the Civil War approaches, the Van Lews, and old Southern family, free their slaves, causing a rift between them and their neighbours. Elizabeth Van Lew is the beautiful and headstrong daughter, determined to fight for justice. Mary Bowser grew up as the Van Lew's servant — and as Elizabeth's friend. The two women join an underground group to spy on the Confederate Army in order to pass military secrets to the Union Army. When their activity is discovered, Elizabeth is captured — and only Mary has the information that can save Elizabeth's life. Together, their courage helped unite a divided nation.

Tue. — Feb. 23, 1988

8:30 No Place Like Home

Arthur returns home from work to find that Beryl has decided to cook Trevor a wonderful steak meal, and give him the only remaining piece of Arthur's favourite apple pie. Raymond calls round to find Edward Hackett, the local estate agent, is dating Lorraine. Even though they are temporarily separated, Raymond warns Hackett to keep away. When this goes unheeded, the consequences have repercussions which affect Beryl, Arthur and Trevor.

9:10 Standby... Light! Camera! Action!

10:20 Murder She Wrote

11:10 Three's Company

Wed. — Feb. 24, 1988

8:30 Charles in Charge

9:10 Doc. — Well Being
A Breed Apart

Patient's dissatisfaction with their doctors is on the increase, and their complaints largely focus on doctor's lack of communication skills and their treatment of patients as machines rather than human beings. This programme



No Place Like Home — Tuesday at 8:30

traces these problems back to their source — the ways doctors are trained. We interview a wide range of medics, from students to professors and they all point to the deficiencies of medical training. They all stress the vital need for communication skills in correctly diagnosing illness. If doctors do not listen to their patients, time and money are wasted. But too often, say students and doctors, medical schools encourage students to think of themselves as a breed apart.

9:35 Tales of the Unexpected
The Dead don't Steal

Pilot Ken Johnson (Nicholas Ball) and his secretary-mistress Lillian (Glynis Barber) run a drug-smuggling operation through his airline business. When she tells him she wants to quit, Ken is furious and refuses to let her go. Then, in a series of terrifying, inexplicable incidents, she drives him to the brink of madness.

is laid for the suspected plotters. Emily and Winston are married. Anthony and Sally make plans for their wedding and Jim makes plans for a second Honeymoon. Edwina and Emma make their peace.

Thur. — Feb. 25, 1988

8:30 Kate and Allie

9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film
Into the Night

Starring:
Vera Miles
Irene Papas
Jeff Gold Blum

Diana is involved in the matter of stealing some of the Shah's jewellery. The Iranian Savak chase her to restore the jewels.

Fri. — Feb. 26, 1988

8:30 Growing Pains

9:10 Magnum

10:20 Falcon Crest

11:10 Some Mothers Do Have Them

Shultz 'encouraged' by reaction to initiative

(Continued from page 1)

of the Canadian delegation, quoted Peres as saying that "a failure of the Shultz initiative would be tragic for Israel. Agony and strife cannot continue."

Peres also told the Canadians that he and his political rival, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, had different philosophies, said Winegard, a member of the Progressive Conservative Party.

"Shamir wants to have all of the land, without peace, if necessary, while Peres is prepared to give up some of the land in exchange for peace," Winegard

quoted the foreign minister as saying.

The seven-member delegation expressed support for Peres and the U.S. plan, said Winegard.

The legislators, members of the Canadian parliament's standing committee on external affairs, are in the Middle East on a fact-finding mission and will report back to Foreign Secretary Joe Clark after their return to Canada Sunday.

Asked about the group's conclusions, Winegard said: "We are urging everyone to get started (with peace talks), for heavens sakes."

Irish group U2 climbs tree to be superstars of rock

By Paul Majendie
Reuters

DUBLIN — In a classic rags-to-riches saga, four young Dubliners have fought their way to the top of one of the world's most merciless and fickle businesses — rock and roll.

It began when four schoolboys got together and named their fledgling rock group after an American spy plane.

Ten years and six albums later, U2 can genuinely claim to be top of the pops with their own unique brand of politically committed and yet fluently melodic songs.

Their nine-month tour of Europe and North America last year attracted 3.5 million fans. Their latest album "The Joshua Tree" sold 14 million copies and topped the charts on both continents.

U2 followed the Beatles and the Who as only the third rock group to be pictured on the cover of Time magazine. Rolling Stone magazine named them the rock group of the 1980s.

The British music industry picked U2 as international group of the year. They have been nominated for four Grammys, the U.S. music industry's equivalent to the Hollywood Oscars.

To their biographer Eamon Dunphy, U2 "are to the 1980s what the Beatles, Rolling Stones and Bob Dylan were to the decades before, heroes of their generation."

Dunphy, a Dublin sports journalist who used to play soccer for the British club Millwall, is certainly not averse to a burst of the hyperbole so beloved of the pop industry when describing today's rock and roll champions.

Addressing political issues

"In an age when politicians are no longer listened to, U2 are heard when they sing of Martin Luther King, El Salvador, Ethiopia or nuclear holocaust," he says.

His authorised biography of the group — "Unforgettable Fire" — is named after one of their albums which in turn was inspired by an exhibition of painting by survivors from the Hiroshima and Nagasaki nuclear attacks in World War II.

The political voice of U2 is their lead singer Bono — real name Paul Hewson — a chunkily-built 27-year-old who prays before going on stage and spurns the rock and roll world of drugs, drink and groupie girls.

As a singer, he would dearly love to boost the self-confidence of the Irish, weighed down by a

huge national debt and forced by a 20 per cent unemployment rate to emigrate in their thousands.

"If we could — after all, we are only a rock and roll band — end the spell of the inferiority complex in this country, then that would be something," he said.

Bono's background mirrors the divisions of an island which has been ravaged by two decades of sectarian and political conflict in British-ruled Northern Ireland. His protestant mother and Catholic father married despite family opposition.

One of the most famous U2 songs is "Sunday Bloody Sunday" which recalls the day in 1972 when British soldiers shot dead 13 civil rights protesters in Londonderry.

Carriers of the white flag

U2 shy away from fervent nationalism. On stage they wave a white flag which, as Bono explains in the book, "is to get away from green, white and orange (the Irish Republic's colours), to get away from stars and stripes, to get away from the Union Jack."

"I'm frightened of restrictions on those levels and I get scared when people start saying they are prepared to kill to back their belief in where a border should be. I would love to see a united Ireland but I don't believe you can put a gun to somebody's head at anytime to make him see your way," he adds.

"The Joshua Tree" certainly reflects the political commitment of U2 with an amalgam of often harsh and bitter songs about the British miners' strike, the civil war in El Salvador and the death in a motor cycle accident of a young New Zealander in the band's road crew.

Those themes have been followed throughout their carefully-plotted career which includes an electrifying performance at the Live Aid concert for African famine relief, and a two-week tour of the United States to raise money for the human rights organisation, Amnesty International.

This year's main project will be a full-length feature film about their 1987 tour, while Bono has branched out with a Dublin exhibition of photographs taken when he visited Ethiopia.

But Bono is quick to take a gentle dig at the group's "good boys of rock" image, saying in a recent Irish newspaper interview: "The thing that I least like about myself is that I am reasonable."

"Being reasonable is a very un-pop star trait. So I am taking learning-to-be-a-bastard lessons."

Bullfighting Omani-style: Fun for all

By Ken Haley
Reuters

SEEB, Oman — Bullfights in Oman bear only the faintest resemblance to those that inspired American writer Ernest Hemingway.

For one thing man doesn't fight bull. Bulls fight each other. And for another no animal is killed, or usually even hurt.

Seeb, a small town where white-robed boys kick footballs with their bare feet, exhibits little sign of life before half past three on Friday, apart from voices of worshippers at its well-frequented mosque.

But from then on, bulls and cars are driven down a winding stony track past the mosque and out to the bull-ring a kilometre off the road.

A waist-high mound of earth 60 metres across defines the ring, a dustbowl where every minute sees more beefy contestants m-loaded from trucks.

One frisky competitor leads its

master onto the turf, a rope hobbling its right foreleg and inflaming its temper, which is how things are meant to be.

While the crowd squinting on the mound increases, elders in colourful turbans proclaiming their dignity huddle closer to the pit.

Without ceremony, the chief among them — the ringmaster — sends word to two of the owners to unleash their bulls. From opposite sides of the ring they lead the animals out before giving them their freedom.

Suddenly the skirmish is on. The animals crash forward, locking horns and gouging the ground in fury, each trying to get the other to run away.

The crowd shows desultory interest. These are small fry compared to what will come.

No mere spectators, these are connoisseurs of cattle. Many follow the fight circuit, going on alternate weeks to Seeb, an hour's drive north west of the Omani capital of Muscat, and the

nearby town of Burka.

Some have come to buy a bull themselves. The beasts do not sell for much less than 1,000 rials (\$2,600) each and the best will fetch twice as much.

Spanish bullfighting shunned

Any comparison between an Omani bullfight and the Spanish version — described graphically by Hemingway in "Death in the Afternoon" — where the bull-fighter kills the bull, invites a sneer of superiority.

"In Spain they use a sword on a bull," says spectator Salim Al Raisi. "It is horrible. We do nothing like that."

Aggression and hefty shoulders are highly prized by owners. Each bout lasts five or 10 minutes, to allow as many bulls as possible to make a showing, so the ability to stand one's ground is all-important.

The owners are permitted to keep their bulls' horns pointed for maximum effectiveness but

that is the only sharp practice going on.

There is no evidence of betting and it would be alien to sporting and religious tradition for there to be any.

Excited whispers can be heard from the gallery.

A black brute named Baz is digging up the turf as a brown and slightly smaller opponent called Skelli approaches across the arena.

Saif Hamed unleashes Baz and sends him on his way.

The next minute the two animals are eyeball-to-eyeball, shoulder-to-shoulder. When not locked in combat the two bulls circle for advantage to roars of approval from the spectators.

As the animals approach a new pitch of fury, officials fall upon them to prevent injury, twisting their tails to try to get them to ease up.

Their tempers barely cooled, the beasts are allowed at one another again. Baz emerges victorious. Skelli has fled the ring.

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E. Germany sweeps luge medals; Guliaev wins speed skating honour

CALGARY (AP) — A Soviet speed skater, just cleared after a steroid scandal, put his nation ahead in the gold medal race with an Olympic record in the 1,000 metres, Thursday, while East German women swept all three medals in their luge event.

The wind, continuing to bedevil the Winter Games, swept away scheduled gold medal competition in the women's downhill ski race and, for the second time in two days, the 90-metre team ski jumping.

The Soviets had four gold medals and the East Germans three after Nikolai Guliaev edged East German skater Jens-Uwe Mey, the 500-metre gold medalist, by 0.08 seconds in the 1,000. Overall, the Soviets had 11 medals and the East Germans were second with six.

American Dan Jansen, who fell in Sunday's 500-metre race hours after his sister died of leukemia, was skating at a gold medal pace two-thirds of the way through the 1,000 when he fell again, ending his hopes of winning a medal for his sister.

Guliaev's time of 1:13.03 broke the Olympic record of 1:15.18 set by American Eric Heiden in 1980.

1980. Mey won the silver medal in 1:13.11 and Soviet skater Igor Zhelezovsky took the bronze in 1:13.19.

Guliaev, the 1987 world speed skating champion, was cleared for competition by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) just before the Olympics began. Reports in January said he had delivered a package containing steroids to Norwegian athletes, but Guliaev denied knowing that the package contained steroids.

1988 WINTER OLYMPICS

Also on the ice was part two of "the battle of the Brians" in men's figure skating. On Wednesday, 1985 world champion Alexander Fadeev of the Soviet Union won the compulsory figures, worth 30 per cent of the score, but in Thursday night's short programme, worth 20 per cent, Brian Orser of Canada, the

reigning world champion, and Brian Boitano of the United States, the 1986 champ, were expected to start catching up. The decisive free skating comes Saturday.

The Finns, third in the standings with two gold medals and one bronze, had been in the running for a third gold Thursday before wind gusts led to a six-day postponement of the 90-metre team jump. Now Matti Nykanen, winner of the 70-metre jump Sunday, will go for his own second gold in the 90-metre individual jump Saturday.

Defending champion Steffi Walter, 25, who took 1987 off to care for a baby, overtook teammate Ute Oberhoffner for victory.

Since 1964, when the Luge was added to the Olympic programme, they have captured 19 luge gold medals, 12 silvers and 10 bronzes.

In the women's downhill, Brigitte Oertli of Switzerland, the first starter, got about one-third down the course before missing a gate and complained: "It was a joke. Suddenly there was a gust of wind and I couldn't see my skis anymore."

Officials agreed that the conditions, with winds gusting to 115 kph, were too bad to continue, and rescheduled the entire race for Friday at the Mount Allan course, 100 kilometres west of Calgary.

The men's race also had been delayed one day by high winds. Switzerland's Michela Figini, the defending champion and gold medal favourite, said, "I prefer to have a postponement and have a regular run later, rather than competing in unfair conditions on the original day."

Pam Fletcher of the United States had been scheduled to run first, but collided with a course volunteer during her warm-up run and suffered a fractured leg.



British figure skaters Andrew Naylor and Cheryl Peake

MEDAL TABLE

CALGARY (AP) — Total medals after events Thursday, fourth full day of competition at the Winter Olympics:

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
The Soviet Union	4	4	3	11
East Germany	3	2	1	6
Finland	2	0	1	3
Switzerland	1	1	1	3
The Netherlands	0	2	1	3
Austria	1	1	0	2
Czechoslovakia	0	1	1	2
Sweden	1	0	0	1
West Germany	0	1	0	1
France	0	0	1	1
Japan	0	0	1	1
Norway	0	0	1	1
The United States	0	0	1	1

FIFA rejects Chirac claim that France will host 1998 World Cup

ZURICH (R) — A FIFA spokesman rejected Friday French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's claim that France would hold the 1998 World Cup and said a decision would not be taken until 1992.

Guido Tognoni, spokesman for the International Football Federation (FIFA) based here, told Reuters: "The decision will be taken in 1992 by the executive committee."

Chirac said Thursday France had won the right to stage the cup during negotiations with FIFA President Joao Havelange.

"We will have the World Cup in 1998," Chirac said. Tognoni said it was Havelange's duty to invite as many

national associations as possible to submit a bid to host the cup. "But I am sure he did not promise 1998 to France," he added.

Tognoni said the venue for the 1994 World Cup would be decided at a June 30 meeting of the executive committee.

"Four years later we will decide about 1998," he said. In Paris, Chirac's aides appeared to backtrack from Chirac's clear announcement that France would host the 1998 competition.

"No formal decision has yet been taken. We have to respect FIFA's decision," a spokesman for Chirac told Reuters.

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Finns beat Canadians, scramble pool standings

CALGARY (AP) — Thanks to Finland, only one thing is certain with two rounds left in "A" pool action in the Olympic hockey tournament — almost anything can happen.

The fifth-seeded Finns' 3-1 victory over number four Canada Thursday night threw the standings into an mad scramble. Only last-seeded France is out of contention for one of the three medal spots.

Top-seeded Sweden moved a step closer to one of those slots with a 4-0 victory over number nine Switzerland, but the Swiss still remain in contention despite a 1-2 record.

And number eight Poland, the surprise of the tournament, is in even better shape after downing France 6-2 to improve its record to 1-1-1.

Canada could have clinched a berth in the medal round with a victory Thursday night. But Finland, which has looked strong since an opening-game loss, came out firing to quiet the hometown crowd by taking a 3-0 first-period lead on two goals by Erkki Laine

and one by Erkki Lehtonen.

Jarmo Mylly's acrobatic goal-tending made the advantage stand up as the Finns beat Canada for only the second time in their last 13 meetings. Canada pulled to within 3-1 in the second period on Randy Gregg's goal, but Mylly then turned away assault after assault on the Finnish goal.

"I have heard that after the opening match, (when) we played very badly, that nobody believed we could come back like this," Finland coach Pentti Matikainen said. "We played a strong, emotional game. The game was not pretty. But the emotion was there."

Unheralded Poland had relied on defense to tie Sweden 1-1 and lost to Canada only 1-0. But the Poles found their offence against the French, who now have yielded 29 goals in three games.

The other five teams in the pool have given up only 27 combined. Jerry Christ had a pair of goals and an assist as Poland rolled to a 4-0 lead.

"We tried a little hit more to

ICE HOCKEY

attack," said Polish assistant coach Jerzy Mruk. "This Olympic tournament began for us just today. The (remaining Polish) games against Finland and Switzerland will be the most important."

French coach Kjell Larsson is thankful for small favours — like scoring twice against Poland.

"I'm glad we are the only team that has scored two times against the Poles," he said. "They have played Canada and Sweden. I'm very satisfied."

Sweden came back with a vengeance from its 1-1 tie with Poland, scoring three times in the first period to knock Swiss goalie Richard Bucher out of the net.

Bucher had been one of the stars of the hockey tournament, stopping 32 shots in an upset of Finland and 41 more as the Swiss fell 4-2 to Canada in a hard-fought game.

The Swedes, who got goals from four different players, can

gain a spot in the six-team medal round with a victory in either of its last two games, against Finland and Canada.

"We had the good luck to meet (Bucher) when he was not so good," Sweden coach Tommy Sandlin said, adding that he was confident that his team could beat Finland and Canada.

"We have to win at least one of the games to come to the medal round," he said. "But I think we'll win both. That's the plan. We tied the Canadians two weeks ago (in a pre-Olympic exhibition) and we know how to play the Finnish team, so I'm sure we can win."

In "B" pool action Friday, the second-seeded Soviets and number six West Germany meet in a matchup of 3-0 teams. Czechoslovakia faces Austria, and the seven-seeded Americans try to keep their medal hopes alive against number 10 Norway.

The Czechs have the inside track for the third spot in the medal round at 2-1, while the United States is 1-2. Both Norway and Austria are 0-3.

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Junior Teams	Pts	Mids-1 Teams	Pts
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Nash/EBB	8	Danish Dairy	5
Arab Bank	6	Intercon	4
Samar	2	Istiklal	4
Astra	0	EEE	1

Mids-2 Teams	Pts	Senior Teams	Pts
Jor-Exp	8	JWM	10
Marriott	6	France Lait	8
Furukawa	6	La Vache Qui Rit	4
NEP	4	Al Ahlyah	2
GEMT	0	Westinghouse	0

Results of Friday's games

Juniors		Astra 12
Dorma 29		Nash/EBB 18
Arab Bank 6		

Mids-1		Danish Dairy 16
EEE 15		NECC 29
Istiklal 13		

Mids-2		Jor-Exp 42
GEMT 25		NEP 28
Furukawa 33		

Seniors		JWM 66
La Vach Qui Rit 41		Al Ahlyah 38
France Lait 59		

Fascinating pairings for F.A. Cup fifth round

LONDON (Agencies) — English football giants Liverpool and Everton clash on Everton's home ground Sunday, capping a fascinating array of pairings for this weekend's English Football Association (F.A.) Cup Saturday.

Manchester United's England captain Bryan Robson faces yet another battle against injury to play in Saturday's tie at Arsenal — but his manager admits his chances are not good.

A thigh injury caused Robson to miss England's dreary goalless draw with Israel in the mid of Tel Aviv Wednesday and he was flown home before the game for treatment.

"He is very doubtful, though I won't rule him out yet. We live in hope," manager Alex Ferguson said.

But Ferguson had better news with three other injured players, Norman Whiteside, Brian McClair and Viv Anderson, expected to be fit, although a groin strain may sideline Mike Duxbury.

Arsenal also have their problems. They will be without suspended Steve Williams while Michael Thomas and Tony Adams are struggling to throw off a virus.

Fans will have to wait a further 24 hours for the other major attraction of the fifth round with runaway First Division leaders Liverpool visiting near-neighbours Everton Sunday.

So intriguing is the clash between England's two most successful clubs that the game is being held back from the rest of the F.A. Cup programme for the benefit of live television transmission.

When it heat Liverpool 1-0 in the Littlewoods Cup with a late Gary Stevens goal, Everton, the reigning league champion, was on the road.

For Sunday's F.A. Cup game, Everton has home advantage plus the psychological benefit of having already eliminated the otherwise invincible Liverpool machine from one competition.

Current form undeniably favours Liverpool not only

gain revenge against its close neighbours, but also to go all the way to Wembley in May, win the cup and achieve the "double" for the second time in three seasons. The F.A. Cup, however, has a knack of throwing up the unpredictable.

In round three, for instance, Liverpool survived a torrid time at Second Division Stoke City where it was fortunate to draw 0-0 and needed home advantage in the replay to dispose of hard-working spirited opponents.

While the Everton-Liverpool clash dominates this weekend's cup programme, there are a number of other interesting pairings.

Port Vale, the last surviving Third Division side in the competition and shock conquerors of Tottenham in the last round, will be hoping home ground advantage against another First Division side, Watford, will see them through to the quarter-finals.

But manager John Rudge has warned his team not to expect their notoriously heavy pitch to gain them an easy passage.

After watching a video of Watford's victory over Coventry in the last round, he was impressed by their ability to cope with difficult conditions.

"Watford came through even though there did not seem to be a blade of grass on the pitch. There was so much sand it was more like a beach, so they are unlikely to be put off by our surface," he said.

Unfashionable Birmingham City are anticipating their biggest game for four years — a capacity 38,000 — for their clash with Brian Clough's young Nottingham Forest side.

The Second Division club's manager Garry Pendry is undaunted by the task. "Our supporters are going to cherish this game. There's a whiff of success around here," he said.

Another full house is expected at Newcastle where extra spice has been added to their match against Wimbledon following the much publicised and controversial close-marking tactics of defender Vinny Jones on young Newcastle star Paul Gascoigne when the teams met earlier this month.

Luton disrupted
Luton Town's preparations for the fifth round were disrupted Friday as two players flew home after being stranded in Greece, while opponents Queen's Park Rangers took a holiday.

Central defender Mal Donaghy and midfielder Danny Wilson were in an 18-man Northern Ireland squad who were delayed in Athens until Friday after a friendly international because of a 24-hour strike by air traffic controllers.

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Shultz heads for talks in Moscow

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is flying to Moscow this weekend, hoping to rescue faltering superpower arms control negotiations and help speed up a peace settlement and Soviet troop withdrawal in Afghanistan.

While the main purpose of the trip is progress on an arms control agreement that could be signed at a May-June superpower summit in Moscow, regional issues will also be high on the agenda, American officials say.

These include Afghanistan, a U.S. Middle East peace initiative and American calls for an arms embargo against Iran as a way of ending the Gulf war.

Shultz, who was due to leave Friday, said after the Washington summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in December that "we now can see quite clearly the outlines" of a superpower accord halving long-range

strategic nuclear weapons. Since then, American and Soviet officials have blamed each other for a lack of progress in negotiations in Geneva, and seemed to back off on the need to sign such a treaty at the Moscow summit.

"Treaty or no treaty, we agreed on a Moscow summit," Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov said on British television this week. A U.S. official told Reuters: "No one on the American side wants to say it's impossible. The workload is incredible. Until the curtain goes down, people seem to be saying they will give it their best shot."

Philippine house speaker to confer with King Fahd

MANILA (AP) — The Speaker of the Philippine House of Representatives departs for Saudi Arabia today to meet King Fahd in a bid to head off international Muslim recognition of the Philippines' largest Islamic rebel group.

Three Muslim congressmen will accompany Speaker Ramon Mitra, who will also confer with Nur Misuari, leader of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

Mitra told reporters Thursday

that the visit will be aimed at blocking moves by the MNLF to win full membership in the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the international Muslim federation which meets next month in Amman.

Full membership would enable the MNLF to establish legations in Muslim countries, and would serve as an endorsement of the rebels' bid for a separate Islamic state in the southern Philippines.

Pope urges end to East, West blocs

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II Friday called for elimination of the East and West blocs, blaming them for economic and social injustices that have relegated developing countries to "cogs on a gigantic wheel."

In his Seventh Encyclical, an authoritative statement of the church's social doctrine, John Paul said East-West rivalry based on "unacceptably exaggerated concern for security" was a main reason for the widening gap between rich and poor countries.

The 102-page document entitled in Latin "Sollicitudo Rei Socialis," meaning the social con-

cern of the church, represented an effort by the Pope to give force to the favourite themes he has espoused during the 9 1/2 years of his papacy.

The Pope said the church took a critical view toward both liberal capitalism and Marxist collectivism, and that both systems needed urgent reform. He also called for democratic political change in those nations with corrupt, dictatorial or authoritarian governments.

The encyclical calls for reform of the international trade, monetary and financial systems and free access for all to advanced technology.

Goria wins vote of confidence

ROME (AP) — Italian Premier Giovanni Goria won a vote of confidence in the Chamber of Deputies Thursday evening, but his resurrected coalition appeared doomed by moves in his own Christian Democrat Party to find his replacement.

The lower house voted 364-208, with four abstentions, to back Goria, whose premiership began last July. His coalition, Italy's 47th post-war government, faces a confidence vote in the Senate later this week.

Goria, a Christian Democrat, resigned a week ago after defeat in his own party helped defeat the government 17 times in the chamber during secret voting in recent weeks on the proposed budget and on spending for government ministries.

New proposals issued in Nicaraguan peace talks

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — Nicaraguan peace talks mediator Cardinal Miguel Obando Y. Bravo late Thursday urged the Sandinista regime to offer new concessions to the contras in an effort to achieve a ceasefire in their six-year-old war.

Speaking to reporters at the end of the first day of a new round of peace talks, Obando Y. Bravo said he was asking Managua for a new goodwill gesture.

Under his proposal, which came as surprise, the Sandinistas would declare an amnesty for all political prisoners, grant unrestricted freedom of the press, continue their dialogue with the political opposition and end military conscription.

In return, the rebels would commit to a 30-day truce, remain-

Soviet party leader dropped from Politburo

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet Communist Party leaders dropped Boris N. Yeltsin, the outspoken former Moscow party chief, from the ruling Politburo Thursday and promoted officials charged with reforming economic planning and party personnel.

The Soviet News Agency TASS announced the changes at the end of a two-day meeting of the policy-making Central Committee, which had been called to approve broad reforms in education.

In a wide-ranging address to about 300 members of the Central Committee Thursday, Soviet Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev called for "free competition of minds" under his policy of greater openness, and said his country faces a "most serious financial problem."

The Central Committee "freed" Comrade B.N. Yeltsin from his duties as a candidate member of the Politburo, TASS said.

Gorbachev ousted the 57-year-old Yeltsin, an outspoken supporter of the party leader's policy of greater openness, from his position as Moscow party leader Nov. 11. At the last meeting of the Central Committee, on Oct. 21, Yeltsin had criticised the pace of reform and the leadership style of the Communist Party. He had offered to quit.

New cabinet unveiled in Seoul

SEOUL (AP) — South Korean President-elect Roh Tae-woo unveiled a new cabinet Friday in which several key posts went to holdovers, despite hopes by the public for major changes.

Opposition parties charged the new cabinet was just a reshuffling and that Roh was determined to continue the authoritarian rule of outgoing president Chun Doo-hwan.

Roh, who takes office Feb. 25, had pledged to end the country's long tradition of authoritarian rule and ensure full democracy. The choosing of the cabinet had been closely watched for evidence Roh will follow through on promises for sweeping reforms.

In the new cabinet, Roh retained seven ministers from the Chun government.

Democrats shoot it out in Texas debate; Babbitt, Du Pont quit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Southern Albert Gore was mainly on the sidelines in early campaign outposts, but he came out swinging as Democrats sparred at their leadoff debate of Super Tuesday season. And Republican George Bush made a flat prediction about the March 8 regional primary: "I intend to win."

Their ranks thinning, the presidential contenders campaigned mainly in the South — where every state except South Carolina holds primaries or caucuses on March 8, Super Tuesday — or in Minnesota and South Dakota, whose contests next week offer candidates a chance to go into Super Tuesday a winner.

In Nevada, Bush won a non-binding Republican poll Thursday night. But his tally was nearly equalled by undecided voters — many of which were believed to have been won by supporters of former TV evangelist Pat Robertson, who also got a large chunk of

votes. Democrat Paul Simon skipped the Dallas debate Thursday night to campaign in Missouri, a Super Tuesday state, and Minnesota. The Illinois senator finished in a disappointing second place in Iowa and in third place in New Hampshire.

Democrat Bruce Babbitt and Republican Pete Du Pont made their exits from the race Thursday. Neither expressed regret about having run. Republican Alexander Haig, the former secretary of state, bowed out last Friday.

At the Dallas debate Thursday night, Gore quickly took the offensive, asking Michael Dukakis why he was willing to tolerate a Soviet client state in Central America.

"I never said that, Al," snapped Dukakis, who racked up a big win in the New Hampshire primary Tuesday.

Gore also scrapped with congressman Richard Gephardt, the

Democratic winner in Iowa, taking the Missouri congressman to task for shifts on issues.

Gore, who bypassed the Iowa caucuses and ran only a limited campaign in New Hampshire, is staking his hopes on a southern strategy. The setting of the debate — in the biggest Super Tuesday state — underscored the Tennessee senator's urgent need for a strong showing in his home region.

The Democrats had another confrontation scheduled Friday night, this one in St. Paul, Minnesota.

And there was a Republican debate set for Friday night in Dallas, but only two of the contenders — Bush and congressman Jack Kemp — were scheduled to appear.

Senator Bob Dole and Robertson both said Thursday they wouldn't attend, saying they thought Bush backers would pack the event.

Thai-Laos ceasefire in effect

BANGKOK (R) — A Thai-Laoian ceasefire went into effect Friday ending the worst frontier fighting between the two states for more than 40 years.

Thai army officers said the disputed area was quiet when the truce went into effect at 0100 GMT, and troops were preparing to disengage after sporadic battles over the last six months in which hundreds of soldiers have been killed.

Six Thai and Laotian military officers flew in a Thai helicopter over the 80-square-kilometre zone in remote hills, about 400 kilometres north of Bangkok, to report on any violations of the ceasefire pact signed Wednesday.

The accord requires Thai and Laotian forces to pull back within 48 hours about three kilometres from a hill which had been the focus of air strikes and artillery exchanges.

Britain restructures civil service

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has announced that her government will hand over authority for 70,000 of Britain's 580,000 civil servants to 12 new agencies run by private industry-style executives rather than government ministers.

She told the House of Commons Thursday that the new agencies planned in the next 12 months would remain part of the civil service, accountable to the government and parliament. But she indicated some eventually may become private companies.

She also indicated that more changes could be coming.

The plans follow a report by Thatcher's Efficiency Unit which called for separate agencies

Kennedy sworn in as U.S. Supreme Court justice

WASHINGTON (R) — Anthony Kennedy was sworn in Thursday as the 104th U.S. Supreme Court justice, filling a seat that had been vacant for eight months as two earlier nominations by U.S. President Ronald Reagan faltered.

The installation of Kennedy, who was Reagan's third choice for the vacancy, brought the nine-member high court to full strength for the first time since Justice Lewis Powell retired last June for health reasons.

Kennedy, who will play a pivotal role on the court, which has been deadlocked between liberal and conservative factions, was given the judicial oath of office by Chief Justice William Rehnquist during a brief ceremony in the ornate courtroom.

The vacancy became a major embarrassment for Reagan after the Senate last October rejected his nomination of former Judge

Robert Bork by a 58-to-42 vote, the largest margin of defeat for a high court appointee.

Reagan then nominated Judge Douglas Ginsburg, but he was forced to withdraw last November after admitting that he had smoked marijuana as a law school professor in the late 1970s.

In contrast, the nomination of Kennedy, 51 and a former U.S. Court of Appeals judge from Sacramento, California, drew widespread praise, winning senate confirmation two weeks ago by a 97-0 vote.

The vacancy had been viewed as Reagan's last chance to leave behind a conservative judicial legacy on the Supreme Court. But Kennedy is expected to be a more moderate conservative than Bork, who questioned past Supreme Court decisions on individual freedoms, such as a woman's right to an abortion.

Amnesty International doubts fairness of riot trials in Britain

LONDON (AP) — Amnesty International said Friday that police questioning about 70 people after a 1985 London riot in which a policeman was killed denied most of them access to lawyers and forced many to sign confessions.

The London-based international human rights group appealed to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government to review the trial of three men sentenced to life imprisonment last March for hacking constable Keith Blakelock to death, and to review the trials of at least 16 others convicted of rioting, robbery and other serious crimes.

The Home Office, which is responsible for the police, said it recently launched an independent investigation into the complaints, and left open the possibility of reviewing some trials.

While withholding comment on individual cases cited by Amnesty International, the Home Office expressed surprise that an organisation that campaigns for political prisoners "could be remotely justified" in taking up the cause of the rioters.

Amnesty International replied that the riot "took place in a highly-charged and political atmosphere, bringing the investigation of the cases within the framework of Amnesty International's work."

More than 500 youths, some firing shotguns, fought street battles with police in the racially-mixed Tottenham district of north London on Oct. 6, 1985, injuring more than 200 officers, according to police statements at the time.

Reagan asks for big increase to fight AIDS

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan Thursday declared that AIDS is his "highest public health priority," and asked Congress for a 38-per cent budget boost, to \$1.3 billion to combat the deadly and spreading disease.

Reagan also proposed that an additional \$736 million be spent on treatment expenses for people already suffering from the illness.

Congress consistently has appropriated more than Reagan requested for AIDS, but the general outlines for the fiscal 1989 proposal were worked out in closer consultation with congressional leaders. Therefore, Congress, which in fiscal 1988 upped the president's recommended AIDS spending to \$951 million, is not expected to significantly add to Reagan's proposal for next year.

The American Centre for Disease Control reports that as of Jan. 25, 1988, AIDS had been diagnosed in 51,916 Americans, of whom more than half, or 28,965, have died since 1979. No

one is known to have recovered from AIDS.

AIDS testing may go to Africa

Final testing of any American AIDS vaccine might have to be done in Africa because the U.S. AIDS infection rate is not high enough to determine whether a vaccine is working, a government researcher said Thursday.

Such final testing of a vaccine would pose "a significant problem in the United States," said Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and coordinator of the government's AIDS research efforts.

Even among homosexual men, the rate of new infections is no longer high enough to provide sufficient data on a vaccine's effectiveness, Fauci said.

The new infection rate among gay men in San Francisco is so low, for example, that a test of a vaccine's effectiveness would take eight years and require thousands of volunteers, he said.

70 feared dead as Indian boat sinks in dangerous waters

CALCUTTA (R) — Over 70 people were feared dead after a crowded boat capsized in shark-infested waters near the mouth of River Ganges in northeast India, police said Friday.

The boat carrying more than 120 passengers sank in a tributary of the Ganges 40 kilometres

southeast of Calcutta Thursday. Only 40 survivors and nine bodies had been found, a police spokesman said.

"I do not think the rest have any chance. The bodies must have been eaten up by sharks in the sea by now," he said.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Cigarette smoking linked to stroke risk

CHICAGO (R) — Cigarette smokers run a high risk of suffering a stroke, and the more they smoke the greater the hazard, according to a study published Thursday. The study also found that people who stop smoking can reduce their risk of stroke quickly, even if they've been smoking for years. The findings, from the Boston University Medical Centre, were published in this week's edition of the Journal of the American Medical Association. Researchers said it appeared that cigarette smoke may increase the levels of fibrinogen, the substance that helps blood coagulate, and thus lead to the formation of blood clots which damage the brain in a stroke. Men who smoke had a 42 per cent greater risk of stroke than non-smokers in the study, the researchers said. For women who smoked the risk was 61 per cent higher. In addition, the researchers found that people who smoke more than 40 cigarettes a day run twice the risk of a stroke than those who smoke fewer than 10 per day.

AIDS cases expected to double this year

UNITED NATIONS (R) — AIDS cases worldwide, now estimated at close to 150,000, will double this year, partly from the widespread and dangerous belief that "nice people" are at little risk, a U.N. expert said Wednesday. Dr. Jonathan Mann, in charge of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) anti-AIDS project, said the agency is cooperating with 115 countries in their fight against the disease and expected to cover a total of 142 countries later this year. "You have here a disease that is spread by behaviour and I believe that reasonably informed behaviour can prevent that spread," Mann, an American epidemiologist, told reporters. While advocating proper use of condoms and monogamy in sexual relationships, he said the idea of abstinence was not far-fetched. For adolescents vulnerable to peer pressure, it might be a welcome relief to be advised to abstain, he added. Referring to news accounts suggesting that "suburban heterosexuals" were virtually risk-free, Mann said: "I think this is very dangerous. It may lead to complacency. It is another example of the 'nice people don't get VD' (venereal disease) syndrome." Even if the risk was only one in 100,000 in such groups, there was still reason for behaviour modification, he said.

Man gets 16 years in killing of 72

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (AP) — A Colombian who admitted raping and murdering 72 women and girls in Ecuador was sentenced to a maximum prison term of 16 years, Judge Vicente Del Pino said Thursday. Daniel Camargo, 56, was arrested in February 1986 and accused of a killing spree that began in late 1984. He confessed to kidnapping, raping and killing 72 Ecuadorian females ranging in age from 9 to 22. Del Pino, president of the Guayaquil tribunal that passed sentence Wednesday, told reporters at a news conference that Camargo would likely be deported when his sentence is finished. Several Ecuadorian newspapers have raised doubts about the court's finding that Camargo acted alone. They alleged that the Colombian, a short, frail street merchant, had an accomplice in at least some of the attacks.

Baby missing most of brain kept alive

LOMA LINDA, California (R) — Hospital officials Thursday were maintaining the life functions of a brain-dead infant as they conducted a nationwide search for potential organ transplant recipients whose lives could be saved. The search began after Loma Linda Medical Centre doctors declared brain dead an infant who was born with most of his brain missing, a condition known as anencephalia. If one of his organs is transplanted, it will be the first time the procedure has used a U.S.-born anencephalic baby. Loma Linda Chief of Neonatology Dr. Joyce Peabody said the baby, born Tuesday in Anaheim, California, and known as Baby John, had been declared brain dead by three doctors. She said he was on life support systems to prevent organ deterioration. Peabody said four infants had been located who are candidates for the baby's liver. "We are continuing to work with them to see which of these children is the most appropriate recipient," she said, adding that a decision would be made within the next 24 to 48 hours. About 3,500 anencephalic babies are born in the United States each year. Half are born dead and the rest, with only a small brain stem to power the lungs and heart, usually die within a week.

Tunnel officials withdraw ban on women

TOKYO (R) — Women who have been fighting an age-old taboo in Japan can now see the light at the end of the tunnel — literally. Guided by a traditional belief that mountain deities would wreak vengeance if women were present at a tunnel construction site, officials had asked Japanese media not to assign women to cover the tunnel's opening ceremony in central Japan next month. "It's an old custom, just like not holding a wedding or a funeral on an inauspicious day," said a Tokyo local government spokesman. "Even though nobody really believes in it, we still try to respect tradition." But the press protested, and on Friday the city spokesman said three women would be able to cover the March 5 completion ceremony of the Kofu Tunnel linking Tokyo and neighbouring Yamanashi prefecture. The spokesman denied reports that the women would be allowed into the tunnel on condition that they wore "unwomanly clothes" to appease the deities.

Rocket debris expected to hit earth

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (AP) — A Soviet rocket exploded before reaching orbit this week, and debris believed to be from the blast landed off Australia, with another chunk expected to land Saturday, a defence official said. "We are trying to identify it and project an entry area. We can't do that right now... but should get that sometime tomorrow morning," Boh Hollie, a North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) spokesman, said Thursday. One chunk, believed to have been a foundation piece that held three satellites to a Soviet proton rocket launched this week, came down off the southern coast of Australia, Hollie said. A second piece won't make it past the earth's atmosphere, but a third being tracked by NORAD is believed to be too big to burn up before hitting earth, Hollie said. "They may or may not be related to the proton launch by the Soviet Union," Hollie said. "We are not saying they are or are not. The problem we have is they never made it into orbit. The rocket blew up before it attained orbit." Hollie said it's "hard to say right now" if the debris poses any danger. "We won't know exactly how big the piece is," he said, but added that it is bigger than the piece that hit near Australia.

Excited hockey fan shoots himself

PADUCAH (AP) — A hockey fan was so thrilled by a U.S. goal in an Olympic hockey game that he accidentally shot himself in the hand, police said. Paul Joseph Grant, 18, was in stable condition Tuesday at Western Baptist Hospital. A 38 bullet had pierced his left hand. A police report said Grant was preparing to store the pistol as he watched the U.S.-Czechoslovakia game Monday night. "I'm a pretty big hockey fan," said Grant, who watches the sport "any time it's on TV." He had gotten up to put away a pistol and was cradling the barrel in his left hand when the Americans scored. Grant got so excited he pulled the trigger, police said. "I tensed up and it went off," Grant said. Doctors have told him his hand will be fine, he said. The Czechs won the game 7-5.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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KEEP YOUR COOL

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

<p>NORTH</p> <p>♠ 5 4 2</p> <p>♥ Q J 8 6 2</p> <p>♦ 10 5</p> <p>♣ A 8 2</p>	<p>EAST</p> <p>♠ K Q J 10 9 7 6</p> <p>♥ K 9 7</p> <p>♦ 8 3</p> <p>♣ J 4 2</p>
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The bidding:

South West North East	1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ 3 S
6 ♣ Pass 7 ♣ Pass	

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

We remember being told at our mother's knee: "If you can keep your head while all about you are losing theirs, then you might become a bridge player, my son."

How true!

South's dramatic jump to slam in his second suit was a practical solution to a tough problem. Since East's preempt had robbed him of so much bidding room, South's gamble on finding one of two key cards in his partner's hand meets with the approval of this department. We do, however, feel that North was too bold in venturing to

the seven-level, despite the fact he was looking at the ace of clubs. If that card were all South needed for a grand slam, there were other ways to bid the hand.

The reaction of most declarers to a bad trump break is blind panic. Fortunately, South's dummy play justified his partner's bidding. He ruffed the opening spade lead and overtook the king of clubs with the ace to learn the bad news. It might seem that, since West now had a long trump, the grand slam was doomed even if the heart finesse were in success. Declarer demonstrated convincingly that that was not necessarily the case.

He took advantage of being in dummy to run the queen of hearts. When that held, declarer was more than halfway home. All he still needed was for the diamonds to break 3-2.

Declarer came to hand with the king of diamonds and cashed the ace. When both defenders followed, the hand became a pinoia. South simply continued to ruff off his diamond winners. West rightly refused to ruff, discarding his four remaining major-suit cards. The table got rid of four hearts.

When declarer now led his ace of hearts West, down to nothing but trumps, was forced to ruff. Declarer overruffed with dummy's eight, and the three high trumps in his own hand took the last three tricks. If only all hands would be so simple!

Panama opposition paper closed

PANAMA CITY (R) — The Panamanian government closed the opposition tabloid newspaper Extra Thursday, the editor of another opposition paper said.

La Prensa Editor Alfredo Jimenez said police, on orders from an assistant district attorney, arrived at Extra offices late Thursday and ordered employees to leave and lock the doors.

They confiscated all material

being prepared for Friday's edition, Jimenez said. Police entered the offices of La Prensa, which shares printing operations with Extra, but did not close his paper, he said.

Extra is the second opposition newspaper shut down since January's general amnesty allowed the opposition press, closed last summer during anti-government unrest, to reopen.

Soviet rocket fails

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet News Agency TASS has reported that a proton rocket failed after launch and destroyed three satellites it was carrying by dumping them into dense layers of the atmosphere.

The news agency gave few details of the accident, but the untimely release of the satellites suggests the carrier rocket exploded.

programme, which has been touted by Kremlin officials as a reliable means of deploying weather and navigation equipment for foreign organisations in the wake of failures in the U.S. space programme.

TASS said in its dispatch Thursday that the satellites — labelled Cosmos 1917, 1918 and 1919 — were designed to test elements and equipment of a space navigation system.